

lack and
pectatio
S. Cor



Two colors that represent a school of 937 students by g fundamentals. Colors the halls, classrooms, gymna n by every sports team in Griffith.

Calendar: (n.) F dration, with no we of August, l tend to be engulf though makes up holiday and random



entral Park: (n.) A com baseball fans to watch t fimes of Ultimate sbee | els chase each other throu the rings or trees around the park.

Court: (n.) A plac surface of hardwo (m.)

Freshmen: (n.) Th experience with hig looking at them and year, while still tryi seniors sports teams, and nor

Green Room: (n.) A sanctuary underne rom different backgrounds come toget performance.

G-Town: (n.) A slang name given to the t called Dwiggins Junction, and is known

to play at the playground and on the tank, and The open grassy areas serve as the field for summer. Young boys and mes into the many wooden



in the fall in spring, the beginn of many school, the m... teotypically very nervous about their first because they're still worried about who is King. Frequently picked on during the school ous blows from juniors and ay.



up of about fifty stu night or a musical

Griffith was first

reflector 2011

de•fin•ing us

Juniors: (n.) The third year of high school. Rumored to be the hardest academic year at GHS. The first year where seniors are taken toward future aspirations: SATs, ACTs, applications.

liv•ing

page 4

learn•ing

page 40

par•tic•i•pat•ing

page 58

com•pet•ing

page 88

be•ing

page 132

spend•ing

page 178

find•ing

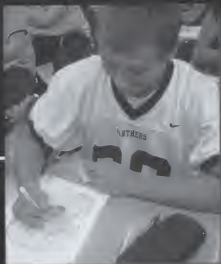
page 206



- 1- Alyssa Gebo, 10
- 2- Ryan Graan, 11
- 3- Student Council
- 4- Megan Gale, 12
- Robert Gonzales, 12
- Daniel Kime, 12
- 5- Tiffany Strong, 12
- Nia Ross, 10



senior superfans



Chance Edwards, 9



GHS marching band



Griffith football



Vanessa Blankenship and Amber Atkins, 11



Nicholas Mazur, 11



Kyle Rosta and Alyssa Rickertsen, 11

de·fin·ing us



reflector

2011

volume 70

Griffith High School

600 North Wiggs

Griffith, IN 46319

219-924-4281

www.griffith.k12.in.us

enrollment: 937



pictured from the top left clockwise: Taylor Surowiec, 12
freshmen volleyball
Andrew Ratzchald, 10
Joshua Kisfalusi, 12
Sarah Hurdish, 12
Kyle Buikema, 9
sophomore class council



With a sign in her hand, juniors Leslie Martinez, Ari Suarez, and Jeremy Camp cheer for junior Tyler Yost during a home football game. "My favorite part of superfanning was getting to hold the sign for Tyler because he plays well during the game, so it was exciting. I did not make the sign, but I still got to hold it a lot during the football season," said Martinez.

de·fin·ing us

A usual day for GHS students began at 7:45 a.m., with the 200 parking spaces that quickly filled up with cars occupied by students who looked like they would rather be sleeping than going to school. This year, additional parking spaces were added to the parking lot, as well as new black and gold parking stops. Parking spaces were added to the middle where there used to be a place to drive through.

As the clock struck eight, the hallways started to clear out aside from a few lingering students. On a typical day, you saw these students darting to their classes as the bell rang in order to avoid a tardy. Students monotonously sat through first, second, and third hour, often daydreaming about running home and laying their heads back on their pillows.

Fourth hour started off with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence through the intercom system. Then the daily announcements were read by senior Nicole Poole. She also read the lunch menu, which was usually filled with unnecessary adjectives, such as Big Daddy's Cheese Pizza Slice, corn niblets, cold milk, lettuce salad, and winter blend veggies. Then around 11:40 a.m., the lucky students who had B lunch filled their growling stomachs, but D lunch students had to wait another whole hour before they could eat. They ate lunch at 12:35 p.m. In the early fall and late spring, many people ate outside in the courtyard and enjoyed the fresh air. Although, in the spring the smell of the trees prevented some people from eating outside. When sixth hour started, 937 students were back in their classes, just wishing it was time to go home.

Finally, during seventh hour one could peek into some classrooms and find Mrs. KV instructing a lab experiment in Chemistry II. Mr. Graff may have been demonstrating how to make a coil pot. You might have seen some students from Mrs. Collard's newspaper class out interviewing in the hallways while they got ready to send out the newspaper. At 2:55

the bell rang, some students stormed out of school while others were stuck in the building for another three hours due to an extra-curricular activity or a sports practice. During five days of the year, the students got let out of school at 2:30 p.m.

On the outside, Griffith was like any other high school, but on the inside we were a group of interconnected students who all have one thing in common; we lived in G-town. The small town of Griffith was a place where people seemed to know everything about everyone who lived there.

At GHS, it was not much different. Our school had only a few hallways: the H (downstairs science/ English hall), H (upstairs history, math, foreign language hall) C (auditorium hall), G (lunch/ FCS hall), and the B (Willy Wonka hall). Since the freshmen lockers were put where the senior lockers usually are, many frustrated upperclassmen walked through the hallway annoyed due to the large amounts of freshmen that congregated right in the middle of the hall. During the day if anything out of the ordinary happened, you could bet that the whole school would know about it before the end of the day.

Within our walls, the experience created by GHS students was unlike any other school.

We were defined by Griffith High School and no matter where we end up on our journey through life, the memories created here will never be forgotten.



Alison Sweeney, 12



Malory Burcough and Sarah Oles, 11



12



Shari Wehby, 9 and Maria Rios, 9



Nile Ross, 10 and Alley Clark, 10



Zachary Beckley, 9 and Kevin Stevens, 9



Juniors at the pep rally



Amy Chandler, 12 and Kristyn Cameron, 12



liv·ing

(n): 1. The act of a person attending Griffith High School for 720 days of their life (180 days a year) while they learn, form new friendships, and create everlasting memories that will define them throughout their lifetime.

What does living as a student consist of? Waking up at six a.m., sitting through a whole day of seven seemingly boring classes, participating in extracurricular activities, and then completing hours of homework when you get home for 180 days of the year is not very exciting to most students. However, students usually looked forward to the 42 weekends and the three long breaks as an escape from the monotonous routine of their daily lives.

Some students chose to spend their free time shopping for the latest trends such as boots, Vera Bradley purses, Affliction shirts, and cross body purses. A popular hangout place amongst many students was the local Starbucks located on Main and Indianapolis Boulevard, in which many people had study groups and drank tall Vanilla Bean Frappuccinos.

Students that are part of a band may have spent their time practicing by rocking out to music, and probably hoping to become famous one day.

The local theatre, previously owned by Kerasotes, was bought out by AMC, which ended the five buck club. Movies became five dollars only during the weekdays. Some of the popular movies that came out included Paranormal Activity 2, The Social Network, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Inception, and an array of 3D movies.

Chicago, which is only a forty minute train ride away from our small town of Griffith,

was an exciting place to visit for the day. A popular 33-foot tall elliptical sculpture is infamously known as "the bean" to many students here at GHS. Its mirror-like surface let people see their reflections and a 12-foot high arch in the middle let visitors walk underneath the bean. During the wintertime, Chicago's Millennium Park had an ice-skating rink, which supplied a location for a popular activity among students, especially after the annual Turnabout dance held in January. In years before, the turnabout dance was held on a Friday, but this year the dance was held on a Saturday. This caused much frustration to students as there were many sporting events and competitions that are took place on the same day.

An exciting tradition for the seniors to continue was the senior prank. The seniors put vaseline on all the locks, railings, and water fountains and also lined the upstairs with dozens of boxes that they had started saving many weeks before the prank. In the Willy Wonka hallway, orange construction cones were placed in the numbers "2011" and as always, the cow was placed for everyone to see. There were also random items placed in the hallways such as toilets, a shopping cart, and a deer lawn ornament. The prank got a little out of hand when students started using window paint on all the lockers. The seniors were told to clean up all the vaseline and paint from the lockers, but failed to fully do so. Along with merriment of the Homecoming week, Griffith also held a Homecoming dance on October 2nd, 2010. This years' theme was "Club Can't Handle Us", based off the song by Flo Rida.

The upperclassmen got the perk of attending the much anticipated junior-senior prom held in May. The seniors also got to experience the banquet, cookout, and of course the highlight of the year, graduation. Unlike the freshmen who were just beginning to figure out who they were, the seniors began to experience all of their good byes and "lasts" after four long years of defining themselves.



During Homecoming week, many students make T-shirts, bandannas, and posters to show their school spirit. Juniors Gianni Rivera, Emilee Trueblood, and Julie Witt spent their time on Tuesday, September 28th to get ready for the Homecoming festivities. "When we were making the posters we put some of them on the floor to dry. [Junior] Sarah Guistolsi had stepped on one of the posters that was wet so it had a big footprint on it. There was glitter and glue all on the bottom of her foot," said Witt.

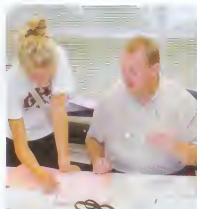
switch·ing things up

a • dap • ting (n.)

1. Countless changes for the 2010-2011 school year, that affected 937 students and 45 teachers.
2. Change: some for the good, some for the bad, not all were welcomed by everyone; most created with the best intentions in mind, but ended with dire consequences.



Student Council has many changes every year, from different officers to different service projects. This year was unique, because they received a new sponsor, Jenna Berzy, history. "I wanted a chance to work more with students in a non-academic setting and I believe student council does some really exciting activities I wanted to be a part of," said Berzy. Berzy's vision for this school year is making a smooth transition from last year's leader, Rachel Miller, English, and to keep building the solid foundation that was left. This year activities will be the same but there will be a lot new ideas next year.



With all the budget cuts this year, it brought a lot of uneasiness and uncertainty to the high school. One good thing was that some of the middle and elementary school teachers got moved up to the high school. This means the teachers we loved, we could have again. The four teachers that moved up were Keith Mitchell, math, Lynn Roades, family consumer science, Deb Chemiel, physical education, and Nanette Naranjo, foreign language. "I think my favorite part about teaching high school students is that they are a little more serious about their education. I seem to get more thought out of questions and they are more genuinely concerned about their grades," said Mitchell.



One major change from last school year to this school year was adding another lunch. This was necessary, because of the new middle school schedule. "Having four lunches is a good thing for the middle school students. When they are in 7th grade and start out the school year they need extra time to adjust to having such a new, hectic schedule. They are not as used to it as the high school students," said Veronica Halley, Griffith Food Service member. "This new schedule seems kind of unorganized; the way they have middle school kids waiting outside of the cafeteria for B lunch to get finished. It almost makes us feel rushed," said sophomore Joseph Golub.



1-on-1 with the lady in charge! Q and A with Principal Bonnie Manuel

Q: Why was the three finger rule necessary?

A: "It is fair to all students when there is a common measurement regarding how high or low their shirt should be."

Q: Why was the hood rule necessary?

A: "Students still wore hoodies with pockets, so taking hoods away eliminated all of those problems."

Q: Why doesn't the faculty have to follow the dress code?

A: "Faculty are adults in the building that have different privileges. It is great when the faculty models what students should wear."

Q: Have uniforms ever been a consideration? Why/why not?

A: "We have had conversations regarding uniforms at faculty meetings, but a formal discussion, or committee has not been put together."



Ailey Clark, 10

No need for junior Shae Sickos to rush in the morning to get a front row spot in the parking lot this year, because spots are assigned to each student by numbers. "It helps me get a good spot in the morning, since I come in later than 8:00," said Sickos.



How the students feel about the locker change?



"It's an okay spot, because my locker is near all my classes, which doesn't make me late for classes."
-Emily Duhan, 9

"I don't like having my locker by the FCS room at all. I feel like I waited four years for the good lockers, but now I am back to the worst lockers!"
-Taylor Surowiec, 12



Crest Facts

- Did you know that the crest appeared on the Panther Press flag?
 - The crest was established in the spring of 2010.
 - At graduation you can find the crest on the stoles, the gowns, and on a flag in front of the podium.
- "We came up with the crest pretty much by trial and error. All the students associated with Panther Council, Mr. Flutka, Mrs. Manuel, and I put in our ideas and suggestions. The company [Herff Jones] we went through put our idea on the paper and gave us examples. Once we agreed on one of the examples we did the same process with color. With all the creative ideas from the Panther Council, Mr. Flutka, and Mrs. Manuel we came up with the awesome crest that will stick with GHS for forever," said Gregory Rothchild, 11.



Making sure that she doesn't miss a key point, junior Megan Tuttle, pays close attention to the notes for the day. This is the first year that AP History is taught here at GHS. "I like A.P. History because it's really challenging and it lets me challenge myself. Our class is a family, because we all help each other get through it," said Tuttle.

Officer Peter Ghrist was one of many new faces we saw when starting the 2010-2011 school year. "My favorite part of working here is having the opportunity to perhaps help guide students who may be making wrong choices, to make a change for the better, and truly succeed in life after high school," said Ghrist.

activities day

This year, Activities Day was held on Friday, October 1st in the main gym. Activities listed clockwise starting at the top: tug of war, pie find, mummy wrap, object relay, male cheerleaders, limbo, 3- legged basketball, and musical chairs.



The Griffith band, including sophomore Sarah Velasquez, junior Mike Kent, and senior Cassie Christenson march in the Homecoming parade on October 1. "Believe it or not, but marching in the parade is actually more fun than performing at games since there is less to prepare for," said Kent.



To help lead her class to victory, sophomore Blaire Gearhart adjusts the flowers on the float. "I'm glad we won the competition because the float took a lot of time to build, and a lot of hard work," said Gearhart.

In the "Willy Wonka" hallway, senior Ahmed Khalid and Gilbert Eatman take a break from passing period to admire the senior pranks. "I stopped to model by the senior pranks, even though I didn't participate in them," said Khalid.



home.com.ing

new, old, and broken traditions

home.com.ing (n.)

1. The five day week where all 937 students in the four classes compete to see who has the most school spirit, ending in a three hour dance in which 587 students attended on the Saturday following the Homecoming game.
2. The one week that students get to go all out to show their support for our Griffith Panthers football team for the most important game of the year.

When someone mentions

Homecoming, one of the first thoughts that come to mind is the traditions. The many traditions include having spirit week, a pep rally, senior pranks, and the parade on game day, along with having a Homecoming dance on Saturday. These traditions seem like a natural part of Homecoming week, and are something to look forward to each year. To junior Joselyn Byers, however, some things are a completely different experience from what she is used to. "At Highland, we never decorated the hallways, and if anyone participated in a senior prank, they were not allowed to walk for graduation," said Byers, who transferred to Griffith from Highland in October.

There were rumors going around the school saying the tradition of senior pranks was coming to an end, but not according to Justin Fronek, vice principal.

"As far as I am concerned, the pranks this year fell in line pretty typically with what is normally done, and there is no need to stop this tradition."

This year's prank included the classic placing of furniture inside of the school, putting vaseline on the locks and stair railings, and setting up cones in the shape of '2011' in the B hallway.

There were also a few traditions that were changed, such as the parade route. Because of all the construction taking place on Broad Street, this year's parade route started at the American Legion Post 66. The participants of the parade went down Wiggs, Pine, and Raymond Streets, then as always, ended the parade in the high school parking lot by the football field, preceding the Homecoming game.

The Homecoming game was played against the Highland Trojans, resulting in a score of 25-17.

senior prank



"The senior prank this year was crazy. We got it all on tape, and it was just a lot of fun planning our own prank after watching the three classes before us do theirs."

-Kelly Jones, 12



"Some of the teachers got really upset with the senior pranks, but I thought everything we did was awesome."

-Eric Bean, 12



In order to earn points for their class toward their overall spirit week score, freshmen Lauren Hernandez and Yadi Castellanos dress up for nerf day. "Not only is it fun to dress up for spirit week, but it shows school spirit as well," said Castellanos.

During the homecoming parade, the seniors on homecoming court waved and smiled at the many spectators. "I felt honored to be in the homecoming parade, and to be able to dress up like a princess," said senior Brittney Sanders.



Swaying to the beat of the music, juniors

Sarah Clark and Hanna Vrabely enjoy the Homecoming dance. "The music this year was better because Mr. C played a lot of songs that we asked him to, and also nobody was throwing anything," said Clark. This year's theme for Homecoming was "Club Can't Handle Us."



Helping Student Council set up for the Homecoming dance, junior Ted Fitzgerald hangs up a wall decoration.

"Everyone is supposed to help set up for the dance but not everyone does," said Fitzgerald. The Homecoming dance is hosted by Student Council and they provide all the items necessary for the event.

Holding on to the train, sophomore Miryca Cisneros moves to the beat.

"I love having a good time when I'm with my friends so when I saw the train come by I just had to hop on that," said Cisneros.



spirit week **spirit**
dress-up day **nerd day**



Rebecca Basalen, 12

Taryn Grinn, 12

Homecoming court 2010

showing her school spirit junior Taylor Steffan dresses up for nerd day. "I wanted to look like Shae Siokos so I dressed up like a nerd. My favorite day was super hero day though," said Steffan. For super hero day Steffan dressed up as Mighty Mouse, a cartoon hero from the 1950's through the 1980's.

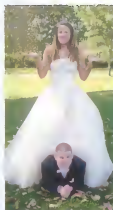
With a focused face senior Zach Pirtle pulls as hard as he can during tug of war, one of the many events during activities day. "The day was really good, but it was disappointing that we lost to the juniors," said Pirtle. This year during the annual Griffith High School Pep Rally the juniors were crowned champions by winning the most events.



Katelyn Barta & Jonathan Acevedo



Taylor Reitz & Calvin Bonewits



Brooke Trueblood & Brian Orzechowicz



Megan Wilbert & Jeremy Starks



Brittney Sanders & Dontrell Kelly



Celebrating after winning Homecoming King and Queen, seniors Jonathan Acevedo and Brittney Sanders pose for a picture. "When I first found out I won, it was shocking, even though I had thought I was going to win because I'm the best," Acevedo said. The Homecoming winners were announced during halftime at the football game.

week spirit week spirit week



Tessa Trueblood, 9



Zac Adams, 12



Cindy McInerney, 10 and Janelle Owczarzak, 10



During activities day each class sits together in the main gym. Throughout the event, male cheerleaders try to pump up their class by doing obnoxious cheers. This year, senior Jeremy Starks was a male cheerleader. "I got the idea for the 'roller coaster' from a kid that went to Hoosier Boys State with me this summer. I thought the idea was really cool," said Starks. The "roller coaster" was students swaying back and forth like they were riding a roller coaster.

the obsessions of junior Jessica Goodson

"I have my belly button pierced."

"Discovery is my favorite store."

"My favorite band is Metallica."

"I have a tattoo of a treble clef, which is a music symbol. I got it on October 2, 2009 on my hip."

"My favorite class is ACC, which is Area Career Center."

"My favorite hang out spot is anywhere but home."

"My favorite restaurant is BW3'S."

"I love tank tops and to wear whatever I'm comfortable in."



"I'm obsessed with cosmetology."

-Breona Huff, 11

"I'm obsessed with the show 'Glee.'"

-Erica Yost, 9

"I'd have to say I'm pretty obsessed with true love."

-Brandon Soy, 12

"I love my hair straightener!"

-Maria Valladares, 10

"I love Harry Potter"

-Cassie Shanks, 12

"I'm obsessed with video games."

-Chris O'Brien, 10

"I love music!"

-Deonta Bramlett, 11

"I'm obsessed with football."

-Tristin Olsen, 9

"I am obsessed with Facebook."

-Nick Brummet, 11

"I'm obsessed with drama."

-Ross Myers, 10



ob·ses·sions facebook takes over!

ob·ses·sions (n.)

1. There are 937 students and each one has something that they cannot live without; they have to have this item with them 24/7.

2. Each student has something they are obsessed with; it might be their cell phone, iPod, laptop, favorite book or movie, a band or song, or something they wear, either way each student has something they're obsessed with and associate with people who share in their common interests.

Myspace was once a very popular site for communications and to have friends. Almost everyone went on Myspace all the time to talk to friends through messages and comments. You could also decorate your profile to fit your style and add music of your choice.

Facebook was around too, but it was mostly for college students when it started in 2004. Hardly anyone went on Facebook and then suddenly it became an over night sensation. In 2010 Facebook was the most used social networking website. Facebook has pretty much everything Myspace has, like being able to have friends and being able to communicate with them, people just choose to go on Facebook more.

Although you can not decorate your wall, which is known as a profile on Myspace, you can write statuses and have your friends like or comment them.

Facebook has games, which are addicting and some are time consuming. "Some of the facebook games are exciting. I play them while I wait for my friends to reply to my messages. The games I like to play are Petville, Farmville, and the Jersey Shore game," said sophomore Tiffany McDaniel.

More and more people everyday are deleting their Myspace and joining Facebook. Some people still do have both, but they just go on Facebook more. Myspace is now copying Facebook by having a lot of the same games and apps.

Although Facebook is currently more popular than Myspace, some students wish that Facebook had a music section just like Myspace. "Myspace has more of an accessible layout for the music and with Facebook it's more confusing because it's not all on one page," said sophomore Mia Dal Santo.

what I must have.. before leaving the house

"I must have my iPod video; I like that it holds more music then an iPod touch."

-Brian Stinnett, 9



"I must have my cell phone which is the Shadow from T-Mobile, I text 24/7."

-Brooke Hobbs, 12



girl vs. guy

This is a band tee of Suicide Silence. "No pity for a Coward" is my favorite song from them and Suicide Silence is my favorite band because they are super brutal."



Lindsay Norrick, 10

The shirt is from Music Fest Up roar. "My favorite band that performed there was Stone Sour and my favorite song from them is "30/30-150" because its lyrics are really meaningful."



Eric Navarro, 11



There is never a fashion crisis with these girls. Sophomores Janelle Owczarzak, Katie Bridges, and Julie Duvnjak were talking about their outfits at lunch. "When I dress up it makes me feel more confident and helps me pay more attention in school," said Bridges.



In the hallway, senior Rachell Hayes was reading *That Summer*, which is her favorite book. "It's my favorite book because I can relate to it," said Hayes.



There is no silly subject on this Monday afternoon. During lunch freshman Tessa Trueblood, and sophomores Emily Mitchellree and Darien Jones were looking at their silly bands. "I think that they are fun and I like to trade with people to see what ones they have," said Trueblood.

At lunch, junior George Walker and senior Parish Morris were talking about their style and were catching up on things. "I dress how I feel and my emotions are in my clothing," said Morris.



bring on the night

night (n.)

1. Time from dusk to dawn when no sunlight is visible.
2. The time of day teenagers leave their houses to shop, party, or simply go to random places such as Target, White Castle, and Best Buy to have fun with their friends.

Weekends in Griffith are often boring, because of it's small size and lack of appealing businesses. If you have your friends, an Xbox, or a band to jam with, finding excitement can be as simple as the alphabet.

As you start to grow up, you pick out your first car and find your freedom.

While discovering this freedom, you also find the places you enjoy spending time with your friends the most. One particular group of seniors, Jake Witt, Kyle Jursic, Carlos Jimenez, and Brian Beaupain go to Meijer and Oxbow Park, located in Hammond.

"It's a place to go to hang out outside," said Jursic. Jursic and his friends go to Oxbow anytime between 5 p.m. and 11 p.m. to "go sightseeing."

In a town like Griffith, you can usually find students at Central Park, a friend's house, or one of the small businesses located in town. Some students go to stores such as Meijer, which can be the best place to find the excitement you search for. "We ride around on the bikes and play with the Nerf swords," said Witt.

Just like this group of seniors, many other kids at Griffith go to places to eat, shop, or to just mess around. These places include Taco Bell, Round the Clock, Wal-Mart, Starbucks, and even the Griffith High School student parking lot.

Finding fun isn't about where you go or what time you go there, it's about the memories you make with the friends you will remember for years to come.



The last Saturday before the infamous "tech week" started for the student directed plays, the drama casts of all three plays got together and danced at senior Jeremy Starks' house. The cast watched *The Wedding Singer* and *Love Is Hell*, two plays that were performed in previous years. "It was good to get away from Tech Week to party with the other cast members," said sophomore Matt Seiluns.



i'm with the band

band name match-up

A) Mondo

C) All The Way

B) Screaming Chinchillas



Ciarra Kroslock, 10



Tony Hanlon, 12



Donny Hoover, 11



ANSWERS: 1) B 2) C 3) A

Moments before his team set foot to their first checkpoint of the Griffith Zombie Rush on October 30, 2010, junior Ryan Graan develops a strategy to get his team to the finish. Towards the end of the game, a text was sent out telling all the survivors that a fifth and final checkpoint was to be found at Central Park. "The free reign that was given to all zombies could not have been at a better time," said Graan.

Before rehearsing the set list during a band practice, All The Way's juniors Robert Szabo, and Joel Kepchar, warm up their guitars. Szabo and his fellow band members like to spend practice joking about Joel's tone. Their band motto is "Where are we going? 1. 2. 3. ALL THE WAY!"



After the Griffith Zombie Rush announced a winner, senior Charles Roberson shares the story of his experience throughout the night in creator and designer of the game, senior Nicole Poole's backyard. "I ran into senior Jeremy Starks, the winner of the game, as a human and chased him, but he killed me," said Roberson.

who's got *game*?

game (n.) 1. Activity engaged in for diversion or amusement.

2. A popular substitute for homework among teenagers, such as *World of Warcraft*, *Guitar Hero*, *Rock Band*, and *Call of Duty*.

"I play *Modern Warfare 2* cause it's amazing."
-Niki Ditttrich, 11



"I play *Super Mario Galaxy 2* because I grew up playing Mario, and found this game to be the best of both worlds."
-Avery Malerich, 11

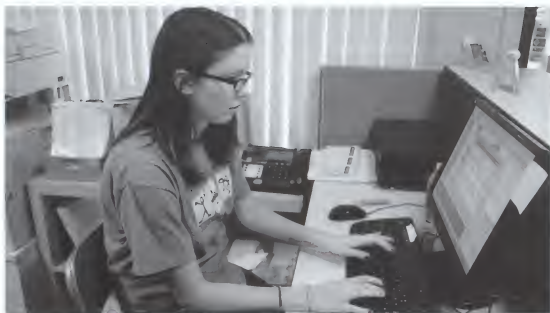
"*Left 4 Dead* because it involves zombies."
-Cole Wimmer, 9



Enjoying the last day of Western Days, sophomore Miryrea Cisneros talks with sophomores Thomas Kudryba, Cindy McInerney and Brooke Pospychala while waiting for corn. That night, Cisneros won \$25 playing "Bars and Bells" a carnival game. "Winning that \$25 made my week. I spent it on some fish food for my fish," said Cisneros.



At float building, sophomore Abbey Little adds the finishing touches to their float. "I enjoyed building the float because we all had a lot of good ideas that helped us to win the float competition, and we all got to hangout so it was a jolly, good day," said Little.



show me the money

students were asked where they are currently employed

"My favorite part about working at White Castle is satisfying the customers."

I've worked with great co-workers for about eight months."

-Kentrell Thomas, 11



"I'm happy I don't have a job because I have more time to spend with friends and play sports."

-Taryn Grin, 9



"I've umpired three years for Griffith Girls Softball because I've played for a long time so the rules are familiar to me."

-Ailey Clark, 10



"I like working at Ridge Cycle because I am interested in bikes. I've worked there for about a year."

-Tim Takacs, 12



"I've worked at Houlihan's with my brother for a few months, and we always mess around."

-Katie Oros, 10

With a steady hand, senior Jaime Keller keys in patient's appointments at Health Inspirations in Highland, Indiana. "When the phone rings the employees race to answer the phone; we have a competition everyday," said Keller.

Using the pizza peel to place a jumbo pizza in the oven, senior Kim Colburn works the 4-11 p.m. at Barton's pizza which is located near Strack & Van Til on 45th Street and Cline Avenue.. shift. "I like working at Barton's (Pizza) because there's a chill atmosphere," Colburn said.



To gain the necessary hours, junior Nikki Rapka clocks in for work at Wendy's on Ridge Road. Rapka usually makes sandwiches, but she has also made fries and chicken nuggets. "Making twenty double stacks is the dream," said Rapka.

Grocery bagging for a little old lady, senior Amy Zellers places various food items in plastic bags at Jewel Osco in Dyer. "I hate when people ask for paper bags. They take forever to open and get everything in," said Zellers.



On the hot evening of August 20, 2010, sophomore Stephen Duhan volunteered

at the Houlihan booth at St. Mary's Western Days Festival. "You got to give back," said Duhan. He stayed busy texting friends on his cellphone while he waited for people to come.



work·ing for wa·ges

Hammond Area Career Center programs offered

- automotive collision technology
- automotive technology
- computer information technology
- construction technology
- cosmetology
- criminal justice & law
- culinary arts & pastry
- dental assisting
- early childhood education
- digital imaging & design
- health careers
- multi-media editing & production academy
- welding technology

Focusing on his first time using the torch at the Hammond Area Career Center, senior Zachary Bozinovich practices welding joints together. "I would like to possibly pursue a career in welding when I'm older," said Bozinovich.

work·ing (v.)

1. Depending about six hours performing a task such as making sandwiches or blending Oreo Blizzards, bagging groceries, or delivering pizzas.
2. Searching for a job at a fast food joint or at an office supplies store, and having troubles getting hired because of the economic recession.

At this point in high school some students are exceptionally driven towards a particular career. Those that are searching for the opportunity to prepare themselves in any field can do so at the Hammond Area Career Center. The activities experienced at the center are specific training. The career center provides an opportunity for young teenage students who want to expose themselves to their future occupation.

Three credits are given to each student that successfully completes the course per semester. The credits are accepted as elective classes. Each student has to have a certain amount of community service dealing with that class. Students that attend the career center are to be at the high school by 7:00 a.m. The students return at 10:30 a.m. and attend periods four through seven. The course is three hours long.

All lessons at the career center are taught in a classroom. When the students have labs, equipment is brought in to use. The setting is created to seem just like a real life scenario.

Junior Amanda Bakko is going to the career center to prepare herself for a dental hygienist degree. "I wanted to go to the career center for dentistry because jobs in the dental field will always be available,"

said Bakko. The information Bakko learns about in class is anatomy of the tooth, hygiene, and infection control.

"I'm going there for culinary arts and basically what we do there is we learn a trade or a 'career' that we would like to pursue in life, and it helps us," said junior George Walker. In class students use utensils and tools they will need to be familiar with later in that field. "We work in a kitchen, and some of the things we have made are potato soup and french bread," said Walker.

Junior Robert Fleishman is taking Construction Technology. "Right now we are building a mini house (4x8 feet), which includes a foundation," said Fleishman. Students have studied masonry techniques and how to lay block. He plans on doing something within the construction field when he graduates.

The Hammond Area Career Center is solely for the preparation of a specific career. Many students view the career center as an effective way to learn what they may end up doing in the near future. Not only are students learning a new trade, but they are improving their communication skills by working with kids from other schools. The hands on training is the biggest reason students go to the career center to study.

With a smile, junior Leslie Martinez rings up a customer at KFC on Ridge Road, after school.

~~After time, she~~ working with the other people at the business, however, she is not too fond of the job itself. "I hate working there; it is so disgusting and nasty," said Martinez.



Taking a break from dancing, sophomores Steven Sharp and Jake Dennison rest against the wall. "Dancing at Turnabout was really tiring, so to catch a break, I went and talked with some of my friends," said Dennison.

Preparing to fist pump to "Sandstorm" by Darude, junior Austin Foster enjoys one of his last nights out. "Right after Turnabout, I had to get foot surgery. I enjoyed dancing because I knew I wouldn't be able to walk or do anything for a while," said Foster.



In preparation for her first Turnabout, freshman Dana Lesniewski concentrates to get her make-up just right. "I was nervous that Turnabout was going to be really crowded, but everyone was nice and nobody got shoved around," said Lesniewski.

Commonly at Turnabout, circles form on the dance floor and a few brave dancers step into them. Eager to show off his skills, junior Carlton Valliant was one of them. "I thought Carlton was dancing really well, and he was very entertaining," said senior Nelisa Caraballo.

she spent...

dress alterations: \$20
hair: \$40
tanning: \$40
make-up: \$0
nails: \$35
pictures: \$21
total: \$156



Ariana Suarez, 11

he spent...

suit: \$0
tie: \$10
flowers: \$15
dinner: \$25
limo: \$40
total: \$90



David Schell, 9



a night of en·chant·ment

turn • a • bout (n.)

1. Held on January 15, 2011, at 7 p.m., one room held 385 GHS students who danced for a total of three hours.

2. The highlight of the year for freshmen through seniors. Many months before the dance, each girl plans out a unique way to ask one special guy.

Turnabout is a night designated to dressing up and letting go, followed by a weekend that will never be forgotten.

Listening to "Do The John Wall" by Troop 41, seniors Vanessa Smith and Jessica Hermosillo do the common "flex" dance with friends. "Even though the music at Turnabout was horrible, it was still a lot of fun," said Smith.

While many couples spend a portion of the night sitting by the tables at Turnabout, seniors Jamie Keller and Andrew Pelot danced the entire night. "This year was the best Turnabout that I've been to in all my years of high school," said Keller.

Dancing to everything from "I'll Be" by Edwin McCain to "Get Low" by Lil' Jon, Griffith High School students, freshmen through seniors, spent three hours at the Turnabout dance, held at Avalon Manor in Merrillville. The dance was from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., and the song was "Enchanted" by Taylor Swift.

For many students at GHS, getting ready for Turnabout this year was accomplished in much less time than in previous years. The Pantherettes had the Munster Dance Invitational, the girls swimming team had Conference, and the wrestling team had a meet at Lowell High School. Many of the Pantherettes had their hair done at the competition during the awards ceremony by other dancers and parents, and some even chose to shower in the Munster locker room between their last performance and the awards ceremony, in order to save time. "Getting ready was a rush, and I felt very flustered. I did my own hair and makeup, and got

ready within an hour," said junior Vicki Solivais. The swimmers did not arrive home until about 4:30 p.m., and the wrestlers arrived home around 4:15 p.m. Most Turnabout groups take group pictures at around 5:30 p.m., so these three teams were obviously short on time.

"There was no down time! I jumped into the shower, got my suit on, and went to take group pictures. I mean, I had to take pictures before the dance, because I'm so hot," said junior Tyler Yost, who wrestled at Lowell the day of Turnabout.

This year, the winners of Turnabout prince and princess were sophomores Miryee Cisneros and Austin Brown. With a broken pelvic bone, Cisneros limped down the center aisle to receive her crown, accompanied by the rest of the court, all walking with crutches to support Cisneros. "When the court walked in, I would've felt awkward if all of the girls hadn't used crutches, too. I loved my crutches because they were bedazzled all over," said Cisneros.

Anxiously awaiting the Turnabout court to walk down the aisle, junior Joslyn Byers continues to dance. "I didn't want to waste a minute of my night by just standing around," said Byers.



The day after Turnabout, a group went to House of Kobe. Juniors Megan Tuttle and Joslyn Byers watch the food fly in amazement. "The chef went around the table and threw a piece of food into each of our mouths, I was one of the few to catch it!" said junior Brooke Brinkley.



A popular restaurant to eat at after the dance is Olive Garden. "They [Olive Garden] have the best chicken alfredo ever! The environment is great and I had a lot of fun," said senior Kyle Mull while eating with his friends juniors Ashley Brown and Alejandra Tellez.

For freshman Brooke Maglish, her first Turnabout was hectic because she had a Pantherette competition earlier that day. "All day I was rushing from place to place trying to get ready as fast as possible. Overall turnabout was a great experience," said Maglish.



Turnabout court 2011



Jesus Aldape & Myrea Cisneros



Brett Brinkley & Julie Duvnjak



Anthony Carter & Katie Bridges



Jordan Long & Cindy McInerney



Brooke Pospychala & Austin Brown



Seniors Amy Zellers and Daniel Kime sit down and take a break from dancing the night away. "Although this was my last Turnabout dance, I had a great time with my friends and I was very glad to spend the evening with my girlfriend," said Kime. After the dance, Kime and Zellers went out to eat at Red Robin.



Freshmen Brandon Garcia and Kyle Bukema, sophomores Allen Diaz, David Higgins, and Brett Brinkley, freshmen Andrew Felde, Tance Edwards, and Tyler Crisp, and Anthony Carter

check out my ride!

A popular tradition for dances is to rent a limousine. Limousines can range from \$400-\$600 a group. This group paid \$530. Limousines are usually stocked with pop and water for refreshments. "I felt super sick in the limousine so we pulled over and I ran to a gas station to puke. I think it was from the pop and dancing so much," said freshman Andrew Felde.

Freshmen Amy Bobala, Brenna Riley, Vickie Smith, Sara Joyce, Sarah Viability, Tessa Truelwood, Paul Capastano, and Rebecca Perez



Sophomores Miryca Cisneros and Austin Brown were crowned Turnabout prince and princess. Since Cisneros was on crutches, all the girls on court walked down with crutches to make Cisneros feel better. "I felt like I belonged and I wasn't the only girl in the world with crutches," said Cisneros.



A circle of students formed around senior Tyrell Tinnin to watch as he broke into a solo dance on the dance floor. "I impressed all the ladies with my dance moves. My favorite move to bust out is the Cat Daddy," said Tinnin.

Freshman Paige Obermeyer and sophomore Mathew Kitzmiller have their first slow dance. "Turnabout was nothing like I expected. I didn't think there would be that many people there but over all I enjoyed myself," said Obermeyer.

the scariest thing that happened to you

"I took a field trip to London, England with the British Literature class over spring break. My real name is Cassandra, which is also the name on my passport, but the name on my ticket was Cassie. So, the day before we left, I had to get my ticket reissued. I was in a different terminal than everyone else, and had a layover in Detroit when everyone else had a layover in Amsterdam." Cassie Christenson, 12



"One day, my friend and I were hanging out at her house. She was chasing me around the house with a pickle and then pinned me down and tried to make me eat it. I know this probably doesn't sound scary at all to most people, but I am completely terrified of pickles." Stephanie Disanto, 10

While on a field trip to Iron Oaks, junior Emilee Trueblood tries to survive the high ropes course with her group. "The course terrified me. After I was done with it, I was still scared, but it was an exciting experience," said Trueblood



strange phobias

epehebiphobia: (n) fear of teenagers

optophobia: (n) fear of opening one's eyes

genuphobia: (n) fear of knees

hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia: (n) fear of long words



"I'm not a big fan of any kind of amphibian, but frogs scare me the most." Taylor Louie, 10



"I am afraid of dolls, especially porcelain dolls. I would throw one out of a window if I saw one." Rachelle Fogarty, 11





Sitting in class, senior Amy Zellers cringes at senior Matthew Mercer's feet. "I have always been scared of feet. They are gross and just thinking about feet disgusts me," said Zellers.

Cowering away from the hands of junior Nikki Rapka, Leslie Martinez fears for her life. "People touching my neck has been a long time fear of mine. I just feel like they are going to choke me or something," said Martinez.

In the B-ball, junior Samantha Aguilar runs away from senior Vance Thomas. "I am bothered by the fact that tall people can tower over me. I feel like they are going squish me," said Aguilar.



scary sit·u·a·tions

pho·bi·as (n.)

1. There are an infinite amount of irrational intense fears of certain situations, activities, or objects that lead to a compelling desire to avoid them. 2. Different fears that everyone individually has at one point in their life ranging from the fear of snakes, ophidiophobia, to the fear of the number 13, which is triskaidaphobia.

Phobias, everyone has them, but where do they come from? For most people, a phobia is developed when they go through a frightening or traumatic experience, but for junior Megan Lesniewski, who is terrified of metal spoons, this is not the case. "I honestly don't know why I am scared of metal spoons," said Lesniewski. "The fear just started randomly when I was little, so I pretty much have been scared of them my entire life." Lesniewski says the fact that the spoons are metal is what frightens her and she can only eat from plastic or wooden spoons. The fear of metal objects is called metallophobia. "Metal spoons used to terrify me to the point that I would actually scream if I saw one," said Lesniewski. Now her reaction is a little less extreme, "I don't scream anymore, but they still bother me. I don't like to touch them or even really look at them."

In the middle of March, Krystal Bandy, science, brought her snake into the Biology I classes. "The snake wasn't that scary, but it was huge. I was shocked she would even bring the snake into the school," said freshman Kyla Manning.

One thing that most people don't know is how phobias are actually named. Phobias are named after the object or activity that causes fear for a person. The root word "phobo" means fear in Latin. Most of the time, another Latin root is just added on to phobia to label the fear correctly.



Kyla Manning, 9

tra·di·tions con·tin·ue

su·per fan (n.)

1. An extremely dedicated fan that attends all the games that are possible. They get into the games like it is their life so their favorite team can bring home a victory.

2. A person who attends sporting events in weird clothing or costumes to support their team. These fans are always extremely loud and filled with school spirit.

At just about every sporting event at Griffith High School there are tons of superfans standing and screaming in the student section. You can recognize these students by their black and gold body paint, homemade T-shirts, and Halloween costumes. Superfanning makes games more exciting and interesting for the other students to watch. It really allows students to get involved with their team to show our Panthers that we are there for support. The job of a superfan is to cheer your team on whether they win or lose.

The teams performance does rely on how much practice that they have put in, but for many other teams participating in special traditions are their good luck charms. Many of the traditions here at Griffith consist of pasta nights, team bonding, wearing stripped warm up pants for both girls and boys basketball, and of course the famous cow.

This year a new tradition came into the picture after the Pantherettes competition at Lake Central High School. The two guides, who were juniors from Lake Central made up the chant. The girls formed a circle and began to rock back and forth. The two guides stood in the middle of the circle and began to scream "Who's Town?" The girls replied with a loud "G-Town" and the chant kept repeating until they were ready to step onto the floor.

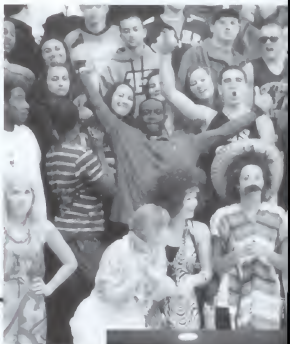
"The guides were my favorite part of the competition. They got me ready to perform. After the chant, I wasn't as nervous as I was before and I knew I was prepared to dance and try my best," said junior Vicki Solivais.

Some of the old traditions have stuck with the Pantherette team for three years now. One of those traditions is to sing the song "Kokomo" before performing at games.

While finishing up their hip hop dance, the Pantherettes pick up the money that they had thrown while performing. "The money really added to our dance," said freshman Sara Fisch.



"Ever since I attended Indiana University, I have wanted to have the girls basketball team wear the striped warm up pants just like the mens' basketball team at Indiana University," said girls' basketball coach Tom Golumbeck. This year the girls team kept with the Indiana tradition by wearing the striped pants.



It's always hard to find a good spot in the student section.

Many students try to find the best spot at the girls' basketball games to be close to their friends during the game. "I enjoy attending the games because it allows me to see my friends outside of school," said sophomore Ashlyn Paris.

Putting on her costume, senior Taylor Reitz gets ready to superfan at the girls basketball game. "Superfanning for games really shows your team that you are there for support," said Reitz.



why do you *superfan*?



"I superfan to root my team on. When I'm cheering it makes me feel like I'm a part of the game."
 Kyle Buikema, 9



"When I attend games, I enjoy watching the game itself and irritating the other superfans and team."
 Riley Henderson, 11



"You get to hangout with your friends and show your support for your school team."
 Victoria Mares, 9



"My friends and I make superfanning fun for everyone in the student section. We make sure that our school spirit is noticed."
 Cole Felde, 11



Many students attended the girls regional basketball game in hopes of them going farther. One of the basketball managers, senior Fernanda Bugarin, attended the event to tape the game. "I watched little of the game because I was taping it, but the parts I did see were very intense," said Bugarin.

Even though the cow is a major tradition at Griffith, some students think beating the seniors is a greater achievement. "The tug of war game is my favorite thing during homecoming. It was nice to see that we beat the seniors and the game itself was really intense," said junior Katalina Villalpando.



what stood out?

"My favorite act of the talent show was the group that sang 'Bohemian Rhapsody'. They all sounded really good together, and you could clearly hear the harmony between them."

Deziree Walker, 10



George Walker, 11, Clarence Young, 12,
Nicole Poole, 12

"The dancing act was the one that stood out most to me, because it was different. Most people that enter the talent show sing or play instruments, so it was something different to see."

Rebecca Basaleh, 12



Sarah Koliboski, 9, Angela Genovese, 9,
Deziree Cadiz, 12

"Lisette Roldan was amazing. She sang her song with a lot of emotion, and I almost cried after hearing her performance."

Angel James, 10



Lisette Roldan, 9



During the Talent Show, junior Robert Szabo plays guitar for his band's original song "Gone." "A euphoric feeling came over us once we learned that we won the Talent Show, since we really weren't expecting to," said Szabo.

While on stage performing an original song with his band All the Way, junior Nathan Bailey plays the drums. "This was my second time performing in the Talent Show, so I wasn't really nervous at all until the curtains separated," said Bailey.



step·ping up to the spot·light

Singing in Coffee Night for the second year in a row, sophomore Karis White performs "Can't Sleep at Night." "It was a different experience coming back to Coffee Night for a second year. It's an uplifting feeling to know that you are supported by friends from last year's performance," said White.

On the auditorium stage, sophomore Sarah Velasquez performs a traditional Mexican dance to the song "La Negra." "I always love coming back to participate in the Talent Show because my act is different than most," said Velasquez.

talent (n.)
1. A natural aptitude or skill that one possesses, can be anywhere from one to ten or even more.
2. Not only just a skill, but a way in which people from different cliques in the high school can express themselves and come together as one.

Ever wondered how the acts of the Talent Show are picked? Some performers actually start preparing for the Talent Show weeks in advance to get ready for the auditions. "I have found that if you don't prepare, you are destined to fail at whatever you are trying to do," said senior Martin Bowman.

Once in the audition room, the performers have to prove to the judges that they are ready to be in the Talent Show. A few days later they find out once and for all if they have made the cut. "Last year I tried out and didn't make it into the Talent Show, so this year there was a lot less pressure since I already knew how auditions worked," said senior David Gonzalez.

This year, the student council once again held the Talent Show on Friday, April 8, 2011. For the first time, the new student

council sponsor Jenna Berzy, history, planned the talent show. "The kids were very helpful with preparing for the show since they all knew how the Talent Show process worked. [Jason] Gast and [Scott] Macfarland were immensely helpful, and I appreciated it a lot," said Berzy.

The student council is in charge of everything that goes on in the Talent Show, from hosting the auditions to positioning all of the props being used by the performers.

This year first place went to the band All the Way, which consisted of juniors Nathan Bailey, Donny Hoover, Joel Kepchar, and Robert Szabo. Second place was awarded to freshman Lisette Rolden, and third to sophomore Karis White, juniors Szabo and George Walker, and seniors Nicole Poole, Clarence Young, Dontrell Kelly and Kylee Ulm.



Performing at Coffee Night in September, junior Miguel Valtierra and sophomore Ciarra Kroslack sing "Remembering Sunday" by All Time Low. "I liked how Coffee Night wasn't professional and more laid back. It wasn't as scary as I thought it would be," said Valtierra.

you'd never guess...

-seniors Samantha Marker and Zac Adams have been neighbors all their lives



-junior Jazmine Shaw and freshman Brandon Garcia are half brother and sister



-junior Kalie Lastagarkov and Officer Peter Ghrist are cousins



"We've been friends as long as I can remember," said freshman Sara Fisch about her best friend, freshman Deanna Johanson. Aside from eating lunch together, they like to hang out on the weekends and do homework together after school.



According to junior Robbie Megquier, getting help from his mom is one of the many perks of having her as a teacher at school. "If I ever need lunch money or need her to sign something for me, I can just run to her room really quick," said Robbie.

Both Thomas and Nicholas Kudyba are members of the swimming and soccer teams. "I like having my brother on both teams with me because we have a common interest we can talk about," said Thomas.



keep·ing us to·ge·ther

re·la·tion·ship (n.)

1. A connection, association, or involvement between two or more people that share common interests, activities, or friends.

2. A special bond that you make with a person or group of people that you share similar qualities, goals, and dreams with.

Throughout the high school years, students form different relationships with teachers, coaches, and fellow students. These relationships help define students' high school experiences.

Seniors Melissa Thrall and Cody Tripp made a special connection their sophomore year of high school and has lasted through their senior year. "Our lockers have been next to each other every year so we just hit it off," said Thrall.

Relationships don't always have to be made in high school. Some can be continued from a bond previously made. Freshman Sarah Vrabely entered her first year of high school already having a familiar face roaming the halls, her sister, junior Hanna Vrabely. "I love having my sister at school with

me," said Hanna. "It's weird sometimes to think that she is already in high school." The Vrabely sisters are also both members of the Pantherettes squad.

Some lucky students here at GHS not only get to see their parents at home, but at school too. Junior Jenny Lanfear gets to see her mom, Rhonda Lanfear, everyday at school because she works in the athletic office. It is actually really convenient having her here," said Jenny. "If I need her for anything, she's right there."

Relationships come in all different shapes and sizes. Whether it's one's boyfriend, girlfriend, sister or mom, relationships help build students' school experiences into positive ones. Those special relationships are what help students get through this crazy ride called high school.

Between classes, sophomore Jamie Rex stops by senior Jordan Rex's locker. "It's nice having a sister close to my age. We can relate to each other's problems and she gives me advice about stuff all the time," said Jamie.

Before going their separate ways after a basketball game, freshman Sara Joyce and sophomore Brett Brinkley say a quick goodbye. "We spend a lot of time together, in and out of school," said Joyce. "Brett always comes to watch me perform at games and I usually sit with him afterward."



un·ex·pec·ted act·iv·ites

as·ump·tions (n.)

1. The act of expecting someone to be something or someone that they aren't; to take for granted or without proof; suppose; or to postulate.

2. There are 941 students at Griffith High School and a selection of 60 after school activities and sport teams. Some students choose to participate in those activities or sports and activities that aren't offered at Griffith. Not all students are what they appear to be. What is on the inside is what counts.



freshmen Nicholas Scally and Lake Smith

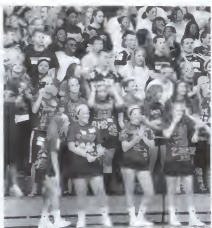
Due to the numerous amounts of fights that occurred, this year started out a little rough. There were around three fights in D lunch and about four fights in the hallway. Each fight has resulted in out of school suspension. To stop the fighting, the administration added more teachers to the cafeteria staff and in the hallways to watch the students and stop any problems. "We have been more proactive and talking to the students before the fight breaks out so no one gets in trouble," said assistant principal Justin Fronek. Griffith High School has had fights in the past but it was rare to have four fights in a span of six days. "The adjustments we made, have obviously done a good job in preventing students from fighting since there haven't been as many fights anymore," said Fronek.

In the past, Homecoming has been a rival between Griffith and the other football team. "The pep rally was more about the support for the football team and the athletes then beating each class," said Jim Graff, art. Homecoming this year was different because it was more of a competition between the classes.

The seniors did not like the juniors and wanted to win the pep rally more than anything. Unfortunately, the junior class ended up coming in first place. "I was very angry that we lost. I think the juniors cheated and it just wasn't fair," said senior Dustin

Holycross.

The junior class winning a pep rally doesn't happen very often. "I felt accomplished and like we were above the seniors," said junior Elizabeth Booker.



Some of the most rare days at Griffith High School were snow days and it was a treat for students to get even one day off. On the night of February 1, it started snowing and did not stop until late afternoon on the second. This paralyzing blizzard left over 20 inches of snow and resulted in three days of no school. After the blizzard, very cold wind chills came through our area causing the temperature to drop to the negative zone. This snowstorm affected much of the eastern part of the nation. "I went sledding on one of the days except I got sick from being outside. It was really great that we got a five day weekend, although I am furious that we have to make them up," said freshman Lisa Calvillo. This year there weren't any snow days built in the year. Students had to make up February 21, April 21, and June 1.



un·ex·pec·ted activities of students

senior Alejandro Cordova may seem like the average student but on his free time he is a...

...kick boxer



sophomore Ashlyn Paris used to play basketball but quit to dedicate her time as a...



...horseback rider

sophomore Jacob Loomis may seem like an ordinary skateboarder but spends most of his time being a...

...hockey player



all students don't fit the typical stereotype



In January, there were three unplanned fire alarms and one planned fire drill. For the three unplanned alarms students had to stand in the cold. "It was very annoying going outside and I was trying to stay warm," said freshman Jonathon Baccino.

Since the unexpected dismissal of Bo Radtke, the Construction Processing class has been turned into a study skills class, which is taught by Tom Ghrist. Some students are disappointed but others are relieved. "I needed a class to study and to catch up on homework so I like the new class," said freshman Tyler Douglas.



**how many hours do you spend...
...running per week?**



"I run in a club called The Calumet Region Striders. I've been running since I was nine. My grandmother is the so she got me **9** president of the club into running. I really enjoy running because it's something my grandmother and I share. I also can get a scholarship for college, and it is very good exercise."

-Bri-ann Andriessen, 10

Rachel Garastik, 11

a day in the life of a volunteer

3:00 p.m. - She gets ready for her day to volunteer at Saint Margaret's Hospital in Dyer.

4:00 p.m. - Rachel signs in at the hospital and checks in with a nurse for her assignments.

4:30 p.m. - She refills patients water bottles and checks to make sure they don't need anything else.

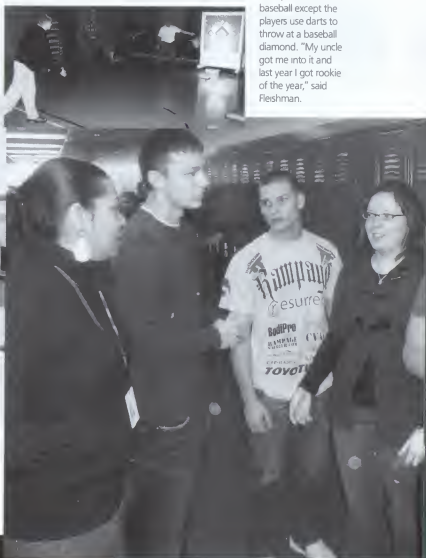
5:00 p.m. - Rachel answers call lights.

6:00 p.m. - She makes charts for nurses and is at their assistance.

7:00 p.m. - Rachel runs materials to the lab to be tested and discharges patients.

8:00 p.m. - She checks out and goes home.

Every Monday evening Junior Robert Fleschman plays a sport called dart ball. The sport is similar to baseball except the players use darts to throw at a baseball diamond. "My uncle got me into it and last year I got rookie of the year," said Fleschman.



One morning, a bat flew into the upstairs hallway. Krystal Bandy, science, was there and saved the bat with the help of Jenna Berzy, history. "I captured it in a garbage can and put a poster over the top. I felt very heroic!" said Bandy.

dressed to im·press

prom (n.).
1. One of the three dances that are held during the year. Only juniors and seniors are allowed to attend unless underclassmen are asked by upper-classmen.

2. Takes place on the first Friday in May. A night that includes a meal and dancing. Takes months to prepare for, hours to get dressed, and hundreds of dollars spent on the various needs of prom.

Griffith's annual prom was held on May 6, 2011. Doors opened at 6:30 p.m. and parent's picture hours took place between 7 and 8 p.m. To change things up this year, junior class council employed Titak Photography to take pictures and The Music Boyz as the new DJ, who was highly complimented by the guests.

This year's prom theme was "Stay With Me". Prom took place at the Halls of St. George. The theme was associated with a garden scene that was used as a background for pictures and various pastel colors that highlighted the dance floor with decorations.

While all of the prom guests were dancing the night away, prom had taken a terrible turn. Many of the guests had arrived back to their tables towards the end of the night to find their cameras and money stolen with no one to blame. Some missing

belongings were later found in the trash in the boy's rest room.

One of the victims was senior Katie Cahill. "I returned to my table and noticed my purse was missing, which had my camera, my date's keys and \$70 in it. I told Officer Ghrist after the dance, and he found some of the missing purses including mine with only my phone and keys," said Cahill.

Junior Amanda Falcon was another person with a missing camera and money. "After dancing, I went back to my table and found my purse missing. Later that night, I got my phone and purse back, but my camera and \$75 were stolen," said Falcon.

Although prom had some awful moments, the night proved to be one of the best proms in history. No matter how the guests choose to remember prom, all of the students know it won't be forgotten.



During the dinner at prom, senior Alexis Morikis chats with junior Joey Vaclavik. "Joey was telling me a joke about Justin Bieber and we could not stop laughing the entire night," said Morikis.



from first to last

A comparison between Prom 2011 and proms of the past.

"This year was the best dance I've ever been to. In previous years, we only had snacks to eat instead of a meal." Alyssa Lanting, 12



"This year's prom was the best one yet. The DJ definitely knew how to keep the kids on the dance floor." Presley Corich, 12



Before heading back onto the dance floor, senior Jaimie Drummond talks about their dresses

and other prom topics with her friends. Drummond loved the dance and called it the "BEST DANCE EVER!"

To plan ahead, sophomore Sarah Galambos talks to junior Riley Henderson about their day-after-prom plans. The two went to Chicago and visited junior Shae Siokos's cabin. "My birthday was that same weekend, so we all got to celebrate together," said Galambos.



To catch up on all the excitement, junior Vicki Solivais tries to get a peek of a dance-off in the middle of the floor to the song 'Cat Daddy'. Later that night, Solivais got a late night snack at Steak 'N' Shake. "Prom was amazing because we got to wear poofy dresses," said Solivais.

Junior Amanda Bakko dances with a friend of hers during Prom 2011, which took place at the Halls of St. George. "This was the best dance I have ever been to since I have been in high school," said Bakko.



Towards the end of the night, senior Samantha Marker pulls out her phone from her purse to text a friend. "After hearing about so many phones getting stolen, I decided to go back to my table and check if mine was still in my purse," said Marker.

After a long night on the dance floor teens can get sweaty. Junior Kelly Lannin quenches her thirst with a glass of cold lemonade. "I went paintballing the day after prom with [junior] Rhiannon Cox and a big group of friends," said Lannin.



preparing for perfection

The most important essential of prom for a guy is his tuxedo. Junior Robert Beach attended prom with sophomore Chelsea Scofield.

He rented his tuxedo from Dunhill Tuxedos. "I chose white because my dad wore a white tuxedo at



Robert Beach, 11

his wedding and I liked the way it looked," said Beach.





"I was dominating swizzle sticks!" said junior Megan Tuttle, high-fiving her partner junior Robert Fleishman. The two accompanied the rest of their group to junior Sarah Guistoli's cabin in Hastings, Michigan.

Dancing with girlfriend, senior Kylee Ulm, senior David Baldazo gets a little silly. "I put Kylee's gardner on my head because I thought that it would be a classy touch to my very classy dancing," said Baldazo.



what *you* thought of prom 2011

“It was awesome moving it like Bernie.” That is such a funny dance.”
Nick Stassin, 11



“I thought it was cool when they played ‘All of the Lights’ when they turned the lights off.”
Desiree Cadiz, 12

“The food was pretty good and I really liked dancing with my girlfriend.”
Brent Williams, 12



On the dance floor, seniors Melody Elkins, Kelsey White, and junior Joshua Steele get down to the music. “Prom was really exciting this year,” said White. “I loved dancing with my friends and my boyfriend, that made the night magical.”



prom court 2010



Brooke Brinkley &
Cole Felde



Melinda Burk &
Robert Fleishman



Sarah Gustolisi &
Austin Foster



Taylor Steffan &
Garrett Litke



Emilee Trueblood &
Tyler Yost



"There was really nice weather at the lake house we went to the day after prom, so we challenged some of the boys to a game of bags," said senior Taylor Reitz. Her prom group went to senior Jack Blount's lake house in Colon, Michigan.

After being crowned, juniors Emilee Trueblood and Tyler Yost smile and pose for pictures. "It was a really big honor to be chosen as prom queen," said Trueblood. "And winning with my good friend Tyler made it even more special."



Waiting for the prom court members to take the stage, the crowd sits anxiously. "It's always kind of nerve wracking waiting to see who wins," said junior Robbie Szabo. The crowd was pleased with the outcome of the king and queen results.



Sharing a conversation with Kristina Collard, English, and her mother, senior Jillian Dixon celebrates her achievements in high school. "I thought the top ten dinner was really nice and it was a great way to be rewarded for all my hard work in high school," said Dixon.

On May 27, 2011, the seniors had the annual senior cook out to help close their last couple days at Griffith High School. "The cookout was a lot of fun, but it was also very sad knowing that our senior year was coming to an end," said senior Cassandra Shanks.



a start to a new life

graduation (n.)

1. 196 seniors walk cross the stage on June 5th to receive their diplomas
2. The day when all seniors lose the comfort of a high school classroom; the day they become adults and get shoved into the real working world to achieve dreams and excel in the career of their choosing.

A time full of laughs, joys, tears, memories, and hardships will always be remembered as part of the seniors' last year attending Griffith High School. To start off the senior cook out and graduation practice, the administration had breakfast for all the seniors. "The breakfast was a nice get to together with our friends to just talk about all the memories we have at GHS," said senior Jeff Tinich.

The cook out had a lot of positive and negative feed back. One positive remark was that the seniors got to leave at noon instead of having to stay the whole day of school. "The cookout was a really exciting place to see friends, and leaving early helped close a great four years. We got to go hang out even longer before we go our separate ways," said senior

Christopher Plucinski.

Also, Eric Stang, who is in Million Dollar Quartet, played piano during the cook out.

Some seniors complained that there were juniors at the senior cook out. Some juniors were asked to help serve the food, but others just felt like joining them. "I felt that the juniors shouldn't have been at the senior cook out because it was not a junior cook out. We earned it, they didn't," said senior Courtney Koleski.

This year at the graduation ceremony, class sponsor, Eddie Covarrubias, played and sang the class song "Good Riddance" by Green Day. "I was surprised to see that he was doing that. Also, when he made the audience clap it made me cry," said senior Amy Belcher.

While killing time at the cookout, seniors Chris Melton and Michael Sims play some catch. "I was telling Sims that after taking a year off of football, he doesn't even remember how to catch the ball," said Melton.

After walking across the stage, senior Amanda Boyer has the satisfaction of saying that she is now a graduate of GHS. "It was a really exciting moment, because now I can really start my life," said Boyer.





Senior Dylan Etheridge takes one last walk around the main gym before he becomes a graduate. "I was just ready to end my four years at Griffith High School and start something bigger and better for my future," said Etheridge.



Before receiving his diploma and taking his big moment in front of all of his family and friends, senior Art Garcia gives Bonnie Manuel a long hug goodbye. "Although I was telling her goodbye, it felt like I was saying hello to a whole new world of opportunities," said Garcia.

Finally throwing her cap, senior Fernanda Bugarin can say goodbye to high school and to all the memories but start to make new ones. "I've been waiting for graduation day for so long but in the end it was all bittersweet and I will miss everything about it," said Bugarin.



senior class info

class size: 221

class flower: Dahlia

class colors: Black and Gold

class song: "Good Riddance" by Green Day

class motto: "Our lives are before us,

our pasts are behind us, but

our memories are forever with us."

senior banquet: May 12, 2011 at San Fratello's

graduation date: June 5, 2011 at the GHS main gym

valedictorian: Megan McVicker

salutarian: Lindsey Sopetti



class officers

president: Art Garcia

vice president: Brooke Trueblood

secretary: Kristen Pospychala

treasurer: Kristi Buxton

class sponsors: Michelle Udchitz, Russ Radtke,

Eddie Covarrubias

1 thing you *wish* you could have changed in the past four years

"I wish I would have gotten better grades because then my GPA would have been higher and I could have gotten into a better college."

Timothy Biancardi, 12



"I wish I would not have quit baseball and played throughout all of high school. I miss it a lot and now I have too much free time. Also, it was a good workout."

Eric Falkner, 12



"I wish I would have tried out for basketball. It is a great sport and I always play for fun, so I think I should have been on the team."

Clarence Young, 12



At the senior banquet, senior Art Garcia passes out the senior superlative awards. Garcia was this year's class president. "It feels good to be chosen as a leader and have responsibility," said Garcia.



your future

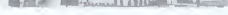
what do you plan to do after high school?

name: David Baldazo

college: Indiana University Northwest

major: Computer Information Systems

reason why: Computers are the future.



name: Mia Campbell

college: Purdue University Calumet

major: Special Education

reason why: I wanted to major in this since I helped with a special education class.



name: Jessica Domanski

college: I.U.P.U.I.

major: Business Management

reason why: I.U.P.U.I. is one of the top ten business schools in the country.



name: Tony Hanlon

college: Purdue University Calumet

major: Aeronautics

reason why: It is one of the schools that the Coast Guard accepts.



This year there were many controversies over the senior superlatives. Many seniors at GHS thought the votes were rigged. "I think I should have won most athletic because I work really hard," said senior Ed Johnson.



the senior-cookout

breakfast in the cafeteria
8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.



rehearsal
9:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.



At the senior banquet, students were able to sit, talk, eat, and take pictures with friends. The following day was senior ditch day. "I had a good time at the banquet and an even better time at the beach for senior ditch day," said Joe Zuniga.



class photo
10:45 a.m. - 11:15 p.m.



cookout and entertainment
11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.



Senior superlatives

**most likely to fall
asleep in class**



Chris Melton
& Mandi Clark

**best to bring home
to mom and dad**



Calvin Bonewits
& Katie Cahill

most musical



Dontrell Kelly
& Nicky Nunez

prettiest eyes



Jayce Lagestee
& Taylor Reitz

best personality



Vance Thomas
& Lindsay Pierce

cutest couple



Daniel Kime
& Amy Zellers

funniest/class clown



Jeremy Starks
& Sarah Hurdish

best hair



Martin Bowman
& Nicky Nunez

best dressed



Dontrell Kelly
& Kristen Pospychala

biggest brown noser



Josh Kisfalusi
& Mia Campbell

**most likely to
brighten your day**



Collin Slagle
& Brooke Trueblood

**most likely to live in
Griffith forever**



Collin Slagle
& Taylor Reitz

biggest flirt



Ahmad Khalid
& Samantha McInerney

biggest Facebook creep



Robert Turnbow
& Kristi Buxton

biggest gossipier



Jonathan Acevedo
& Casey McDaniel

most dramatic



Chris Melton
& Katelyn Barta

most athletic



Calvin Bonewits
& Ashley Parish

bromance/besties



Jack Blount & Brian Orzechowicz
Ashley Parish & Kaitlyn Gilbert

**most likely to star in
Jersey Shore**



Kyle Mull
& Alex Latronica

best smile



David Arndt
& Kristen Pospychala

**most likely to
succeed**



Ray Alvarez
& Megan McVicker

**looks most different
from freshman year**



Art Garcia
& Vanessa Smith

moodiest



Zachary Pirtle
& Kristi Buxton

**most likely to be
famous**



Jeremy Starks
& Nicole Poole

most gullible



Charles Roberson
& Amanda Boyer

learn·ing

(v): 1. To attain knowledge through rigorous coursework over a four year period. Opportunities are given to students to challenge themselves through alternative learning, enriched, and advanced placement classes.

At Griffith High School, most students took seven classes during the day and everyone had either B or D lunch. In some of these classes topics such as the human cell, equations, vocabulary, and Shakespeare's popular plays were taught to the students. Some projects that have been the same year after year are very well-known because many upper-classmen griped about them. For freshmen year it was the replication of a cell, sophomore year was the dreaded ECA testing, junior year was the research paper, and senior year was the economic stock market project. The aforementioned projects were completed in core classes such as science, English, and mathematics. Everyone had to take some form of these classes, which were imperative for graduation.

Also, for the above-average students there was also the option of enriched and advanced placement courses in which students may gain credits that transfer towards a college degree. The top ten students excelled in these particular classes and got to be rewarded by having a top ten dinner at the end of the school year. Each student chose one teacher to eat dinner with them that had made an impact to them.

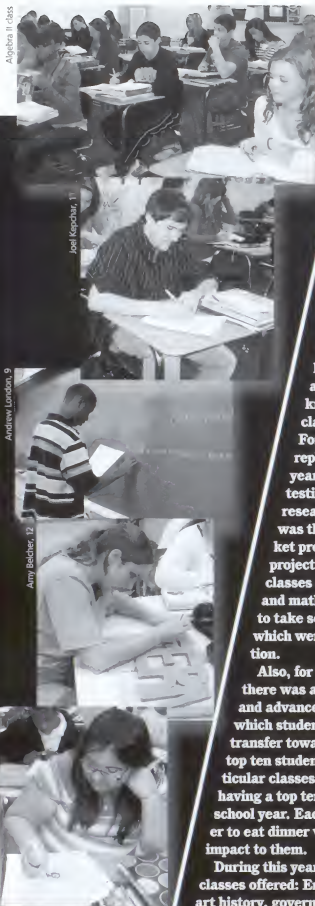
During this year, there were seven AP classes offered: English, Spanish, biology, art history, government, calculus, and U.S. history. For these classes, there was anywhere up to three hours of homework assigned every night. As an extra perk though, students in AP

classes often got to take field trips or got to do something else than sit in class for a day. AP Biology and Biology II got to watch a live broadcast of a science seminar during the school day in the LGI room. For the whole day, they watched this seminar on the projector screen and had to answer questions that went along with it.

However, students were able to choose some other courses that he or she was interested in. For example some of the elective classes offered were ceramics, media arts, textiles, foods, foreign language, and journalism. A new class this year was study skills, which was taught by a new teacher, Tom Ghrist. All electives offered a unique learning style that gave students a break from the daily tedious core classes. For the students who were interested in pursuing a career as a teacher, seniors had the option to cadet teach at a local elementary school. For either the beginning or the end of the day, they would drive to their assigned elementary school and learn firsthand what teaching is all about. In some cases, students were able to decide that teaching was not the right path for them before going off to college. Another option for students was to take classes at the Hammond Career Center. Some of these included auto technology, dental assisting, welding, health careers, and broadcasting.

After the first week of school, most students got very bored with the daily repetition of their classes. Very often, one may have found students sleeping, writing notes, listening to their iPods, and even texting. When students got home late after practice or a job, finishing up their homework was often the last thing on their minds. That's what first hour was for, right? Or there was always the students who fell asleep during class because they stayed up till two a.m. finishing their homework.

From making note cards to completing homework to procrastinating, students found ways to prepare themselves for classes, tests, and final exams. With their books piled high, backpacks crammed, and hours of homework to complete each night, it was no wonder that the students were surely under a great amount of pressure to learn.



Algebra II class

Joel Koppert, 11

Andrew London, 9

Amy Becker, 12



Focusing on her lab, junior Amanda Falcon precisely measures out HCL to add into her buret. "We did an acid-base titration to analyze an unknown sample. My favorite part was seeing the liquid change color when the acid was added to the base. The worst thing about chemistry is having to remember all the different rules for the different things we learn," said Falcon.

top ten

1
Megan
McVicker

(adj.) focussed, analytical,
meticulous
college: Butler University or
Valparaiso University
major: undecided



2
Lindsey
Sopetti

(adj.) competitive, sincere,
intense
college: Butler University
major: pharmacy



3
Michelle
Sopetti

(adj.) outgoing, optimistic,
Chuck Norris
college: Valparaiso University
major: biology



4
Kylee
Ulm

(adj.) ambitious, intelligent,
fun-sized
college: Indiana University
Northwest
major: chemistry



5
Katie
Cahill

(adj.) cheerful, diligent,
determined
college: Butler University
major: psychology



6
Cassie
Christenson

(adj.) reserved, disciplined,
sympathetic
college: Bethel College
major: psychology or physical
therapy



6
Jeremy
Starks

(adj.) dedicated, determined,
diligent
college: Purdue University
Lafayette
major: engineering



8
Raymond
Alvarez

(adj.) altruistic, enthusiastic,
inter disciplined
college: UCLA
major: astronomy/political
science



9
Jillian
Dixon

(adj.) ginger, organized, creative
college: Indiana State University
major: nursing



10
Anna
Schell

(adj.) friendly, frugal, enthusiastic
college: Indiana University Bloom-
ington or Indiana Wesleyan
major: marketing or journalism



words of
wisdom
from the top ten

1 "Don't stress out too much about grades. A major factor is time management so take the time to do your homework and study because it will pay off in the end. Balance work and fun, and try to enjoy high school."
-Megan McVicker

2 "Take the initiative to set goals for yourself. If you know exactly what it is you want to accomplish and you work hard to reach that goal, you'll be amazed at what you can achieve!"
-Lindsey Sopetti

3 "Take the SAT junior year; don't procrastinate and wait to take the test until your senior year. This will save you a lot of stress and make applying to college much easier."
-Michelle Sopetti

4 "Even when you feel like you can't go on, push through and do your best. It'll be worth it in the end."
-Kylee Ulm

5 "Work hard but don't overload yourself or stress out too much."
-Katie Cahill

ac • a • dem • ic a • chiev • ers



top ten (n.)

1. A group of ten students who have competed with each other since freshman year to be one of the ten students in the top 5% of the senior class.

2. A group of ten students that get to celebrate at the end of senior year by being awarded with being the best of their class, a dinner, and sitting out of alphabetical order in the front row at the graduation ceremony.



Anna Scheil, 12



Jillian Dixon, 12



Kylee Ginn, 12

Aside from being in the top ten, senior Katie Cahill is also a member of the band. "I take any free time to do my homework and I try to do it during school so I have less to take home," said Cahill. While being in many other activities, she manages her time well enough to keep her grades up.

Sitting in AP government class, senior Lindsey Sopetti looks over her notes. "I'm excited, honored and glad I earned this by working hard my whole life," said Sopetti.

Every year, there is a group made up of ten students who have the highest grades and grade point averages of the senior class. This group is known as the top ten. The top ten students have competed against each other since freshman year with goals to be in the top 5% of the senior class. These students have worked hard and persevered through all the difficulties of high school to be the best. All of these students took as many AP classes as they could to increase their grades and GPA to move them higher in the top ten rank. These classes helped them to become more prepared for college and it made their transcripts look better when they applied for colleges. The top ten students took a total of 40 AP classes divided between them in their four years of high school. The highest was Raymond Alvarez, with six AP classes. "I think taking a lot of AP classes prepares you for college because AP courses are meant for that so it helps get you on the right track," said senior Megan McVicker.

The top ten students received several perks of being in this distinguished group. One of the perks was sitting in a designated area at graduation ceremony. These ten students also wore additional items than all the other students. They

wore gold chords around their neck along with their cap and gown. These students got to sit in the front row in their order from number one to ten. They are the only students who got to sit out of alphabetical order from all the other students. They also were the first students to receive their diploma before the rest of the graduating class. Also, there were speeches read by the Valedictorian, Megan McVicker, and the Salutatorian, Lindsey Sopetti, along with the class president.

Aside from being the best and having special recognition at graduation ceremony, the top ten also received a dinner in honor of their academic achievement. The dinner was held on April 17th at the high school in the B Hall. Each student got to invite their parents and one of their favorite teachers to accompany them at the dinner. "I want to take Mr. Pearman because he has been my teacher for six years and he is a kind, reliable person who has taught me a lot about music," said senior Katie Cahill. There were programs made for each top ten student which stated their favorite classes, plans for the futures, and college choice. The student also got to say a few things about the teacher they selected to take to the dinner.

top ten tie

Jeremy Starks and
Cassie Christenson

Unlike most years, there was a tie between two students in the top ten this year. The tie was between seniors Cassie Christenson and Jeremy Starks for the number six spot. Both students have the exact same GPA of 4.2666. "I'm glad I tied someone like Jeremy for the number 6 spot, but disappointed I didn't solidify the spot for myself," said Christenson. "The HOBY leadership program I attended had a great impact on my way of thinking as well as my scholastics, my time management abilities, and my dedication to achieving all that I could have achieved in high school," said Starks.



6 "Don't wait until junior year to start caring about your grades; it's a lot easier to keep your grades up if you start freshman year."
Cassie Christenson

6 "You don't have to be smart to be in the top ten; you just have to set goals, work hard inside and outside of school, and every day think of ways to improve on the completion of your goals."
Jeremy Starks

8 "The mind that comprehends the universe is greater than the universe it comprehends."
-Raymond Alvarez

9 "Always follow your dreams and set high expectations. Never give up on anything you do and keep trying because one day all the hard work you did will pay off."
Jillian Dixon

10 "My favorite quote is, 'Discipline Determines Destiny.' Never give up and always persevere to the end. High school is not easy, there will be late nights and hard times, but stay focused and finish with the feeling of accomplishment."
-Anna Scheil

col • lege prep • ar • at • ion get • ting in

col • lege (n.)

1. An institution of higher learning, especially one providing a general or liberal arts education rather than technical or professional training.

2. An organized group of professional people with particular aims, duties, and privileges. There are over 45 colleges in Indiana.

SAT questions of the day

Identify the error in the sentence. The newspaper reported that despite the increase in the minimum wage, many people are still having trouble making ends meet.
A. reported
B. in
C. are
D. having trouble
E. No error

Their ideal was to combine individual liberty with material equality, a goal that has not yet been realized and that may be as _____ as transmutation of lead into gold.
A. chimerical
B. impenetrable
C. historical
D. cynical
E. inharmonious

In a supermarket, Shakira bought 5 items from aisles 1-7, inclusive, and 7 items from aisles 4-10, inclusive. Which of the following could be the total # of items that Shakira bought?
I 9
II 11
III 13
A. I & III only
B. II only
C. I & II only
D. I & III only
E. I, II, & III

Picking a college is one of the hardest decisions that students make in their high school career. Getting accepted into a college of your choice is another obstacle that students will have to face.

Now a days, paying for a college education is one of the biggest challenges. There are many ways to help pay for a college education. One way to reduce your money issue is to apply for scholarships. Applying for scholarships online is a easy way to fill out your information and find a college that fits each student.

Talking to your counselor about financial problems could benefit all students applying for financial aid. Also, students can gather up their financial records and head to College Goal Sunday. This is where financial aid professionals will be at hand to answer all of the student's questions.

After finding the right college for you, students can go and take a visit to see the campus. At Griffith High School you are allowed one college day for both your junior and senior years.

Some students even leave the school day early to attend college classes. Senior, Ray Alvarez attended Indiana University Northwest to take a college course class. He took A100 Astronomy "The Solar System" first semester and A105 Astronomy "Stars and Galaxy" second semester. "I attended classes from 8:45 to 11:30 every Saturday," said Alvarez.

This year at Griffith High School they offered a SAT preparation class. The class gathered every Wednesday. Junior Tori Louviere took the

class. "I wanted to learn more to prepare myself for the SAT," said Louviere. Those are just some of the ways students here at Griffith High School prepared themselves to get into the best college they can.

There are some guidelines that every student should follow in order to increase their chance of getting accepted.

Step 1: Complete the core 40. To keep on track, talk to a school counselor to learn about any requirements that are needed for graduation.

Step 2: Take more challenging classes. Colleges look at high school schedules to see what kind of classes students have taken over their four year period. They want to see that students have taken hard courses instead of an easy course that they can slide by with. Earning a "B" in a honors class is better then earning an "A" in an easy class. Students should show colleges that they are hard working students and that they are serious about their grades.

Step 3: Honors and Advanced Placement classes. These are the classes that colleges look for. Getting a dual credit shows how much work students actually put into their class. If the students believe that they can do the work, taking the class would be best.

Step 4: Join extracurricular activities. Being a leader and being productive with time shows colleges that students can manage their time and work. Some things that students can be volunteer at a soup kitchen, working a few hours at a store, or participating in sports.



Studying for Jane Villaroman's fourth hour chemistry test, sophomore Patrick Weber makes flash cards. "It's a great way to visualize my chemistry terms," said Weber.

Getting prepared for her next class, junior Rachelie Fogarty looks over her homework. "Having Study Skills allows me to analyze my homework, which is one way to get myself ready for college," said Fogarty.



"While taking Ivy Tech dual credit classes, I learned about intro to business," said senior Brent Williams. The credit students receive from these classes can be transferred to any college.

During November, a speaker from the University of Indianapolis, Ezell Moore, came to Griffith to inform students about college opportunities. "The speaker gave good interest on school and sports," said senior Steven Gronkewicz.



One of the 12 students that attends the SAT preparation class every Wednesday is junior Andy Short. The purpose of the class is to give you tips and review items on the test. "One tip I learned was to take three unsharpened pencils to measure the angles of an equilateral triangle."



which college is for you?

There is not just one way to apply for scholarships. Senior, Dylan Etheridge applies to Purdue Lafayette in hopes of getting accepted. "My family influenced me to start my journey on applying for colleges."

Senior Sara Torres applied online for a scholarship to Indiana State. "Applying online made it easy to do everything at home in my free time," said Torres.

Senior, Ashley Matthews went to counselor Mrs. Michelle Uditchz, guidance, for information to apply for scholarships. "Mrs. Uditchz gave me a lot of information about FAFSA which is a form for students to get financial aid."

"I learned a lot from this hands on experience," said senior Katie Cahill. Cahill is one of many seniors that signed up to go job shadowing on February 18th. This experience helped her to see what it would be like to work as a psychologist.



a • c • a • d • e • m • i • c • s gone wrong

an • ti • a • c • a • d • e • m • i • c • s (n.)

1. The many activities that students do instead of paying attention in class, such as texting, passing notes, and sleeping.
2. Various disruptions that teachers and administrators try desperately to avoid by inflicting punishments and restrictions on the student body.



Richard Little, 10



Nathan Bailey, 11

The boy in the corner is conspicuously looking down and smiling at a text message during a presentation, while a few other students sleep on their desks instead of listening. The artsy ones doodle, and the jocks talk to each other across the room, with "I really don't care" written across their forehead. Still standing in the hallway after the bell, a young couple steals one more good-bye kiss. These infractions to common classroom etiquette are referred to as "anti-academics".

Teachers recognize the inevitability of these disruptions, but still incessantly try to subdue the many distractions that students create. Detentions are given out left and right. "I was late to Mr. Schroeder's class, so I got a detention. I was reading that same hour, and he told me to put my book away, but I didn't right away... so I got another detention!" said freshman Alexis Singer.

Texting has proved to be another issue in class. Cell phones were commonly hid in baggy hoodie pockets, and this hiding spot served as an easy place to secretly text. Once the administration caught on to this school wide phenomenon, they took away the students' privilege of wearing pockets on our shirts or

sweatshirts. Cell phones, though, are now simply hid in other places, such as pant pockets and purses. To try to discourage sleeping in class, many teachers have taken on the habit of failing to wake up the sleeping student, leaving them to go to their next hour late. There is also the widespread fear that being caught writing a note in class will lead to that note being read aloud by the teacher.

Teachers may try to find many ways to discourage the insubordinate behavior displayed by many students, but as teens and highschoolers, we see the issue very differently. "The students who don't want to put forth the effort to learn will not. A detention won't change their mind-set," said sophomore Sarah Galambos. If there are a portion of students in each class who would rather pass notes than listen to lectures, it is their grade that they're sacrificing. Another way that many students see this issue is that we're only high schoolers, and we want to be able to make our own decisions. Kissing in the hallway can get out of hand, but for the most part, it is innocently a portrait of teens experiencing dating. Anti-academics is who we are as a student body. Every once in a while, our true selves will show through.

These cell phones, iPods, drinks, and other items are all common causes of everyday classroom distractions.



how we see it

"We're teenagers. As a whole, we're tired of being controlled 24/7. We are old enough to make our own decisions. It is our way of experimenting with our freedoms."

-Emily Kuzmanoff, 10

note passing problems

"I was in class and the teacher saw me pass a note. He read it out loud and it was really embarrassing."

-Jasmine Shaw, 11

"I was in Mrs. Cohen's (math) class, and (junior) Billie Reitz and I were wearing pockets. We got sent to the office, and later we were writing a note about how mad we were at Mrs. Cohen. Mrs. Cohen took the note, and we ended up with a day of ISS!"

-Ariana Suarez, 11

Drawing and talking in class, juniors Rhiannon Hilliard and Ryan Graan put off their math homework. "Drawing takes the stress off of school work," said Graan.



in the hallway, juniors Austin Foster, Cole Felde and Troy Yarnelle play a heated game of kickball with an empty water bottle instead of finishing their homework.

Nonchalantly sitting in class texting and having a midday snack, senior Dustin Holycross ignores the instructions to work on homework. "I eat and text in Santoni's (math) class, because we do what we want," said Holycross.

"I was in Mr. Covarrubias's choir class, and we were supposed to be doing homework. Instead, I was sitting and talking to some guys. George Walker was poking me in the back with a pen because I was in his seat. I told him to stop and sit somewhere else, but he wouldn't stop, so I turned around and picked him up and threw him into a pile of chairs... and then I got kicked out.

-Maciek Szczepkowski, 11

"I was singing that 'to the window, to the wall' song in Mrs. Bridges's class. She asked me to stop, but I didn't hear her because I was singing too loud. She gave me a referral... and then I got kicked out.

-Andrew Felde, 9

...and then I got kicked out

i should be listening...

"I think Mrs. Naranjo's (Spanish/French) class is boring, so I fall asleep along with the half of the class." -Melissa Martinez, 10

"In class, I draw pictures that make fun of people or I talk with other students."

-Angel Nunez, 10

"Instead of paying attention, I creep on people on facebook."

-Carlton Valliant, 11

"During class, I day-dream because its a million times better than what's being taught."

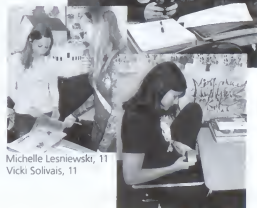
-Tina Horton, 11

Emily Reba, 12

pocket problems

"The teachers and administrators can take away pockets, but not the disruptions that we create."

-Quincy Moore, 11



Michelle Lesniewski, 11
Vicki Solivais, 11

Mallory Baccino, 11

reasons for electives



"To me, photography is the only way you can take a moment of time, turn it into art, and make it your own."

-Alyssa Robertson, 11

Working towards
a future goal

42%

Took elective out
of boredom

32%

Forced to take
elective to graduate

26%

50 students surveyed

"I choose French because I could learn Spanish from my family and French was more interesting."

-Alisondra Acevedo, 10



"I like to draw and I thought drawing wouldn't be as bad as people said it was."

-Brian Beaupain, 12

Foods 2 students junior Jake Schnoor and sophomore Sierra Gutierrez were messing around with soap and bubbles while waiting for their food to cook during Lynn Roades 5th hour class. "I was proud that I came out victorious in the foam battle," said Schnoor.

"The plaster was really warm and something I haven't experienced before on my face," senior Lindsay Johnson said. In Mr. Graff's 7th hour ceramics class, a plaster mold of Johnson's face was being made for the first time in a couple years.



My Point of View

"Picking the electives were challenging because I didn't know what to expect from each class."



-Jessie Mazzone, 9

During 2nd hour psychology, junior Jimmy Gaydos and senior Lindsay Pierce dissect sheep brain in the science computer lab. "I thought it was interesting to dissect the brains because it helped me see what the human brain looks like," said Gaydos.



stu • dents that get a • head

e • lect • iv • es (n.)
1. 18 teachers, 63
electives and many
students taking them,
there is a variety of op-
tions to choose from.
2. Electives are viewed
as just a class or by
some as something to
do. It is also a way to
fill up their schedule or
even to graduate, but
for some it is a class to
further them in their life
after these four years
here.



Mr. Graff's Ceramics Class



Emily Reba, 12



Carlos Tellez, 9

In Shannon
Scheidel's 5th
hour textiles class,
sophomore Kortland
Bryant works on sew-
ing his tote together.
"Sometimes I feel
awkward being one
of the few guys in
here, but I know
this will help me in
my life ahead," said
Bryant.

Electives are a way to express
yourself here at GHS. Students take
them because they are forced to,
out of boredom, or even because the
elective is going towards a goal they
have in the future. Students have so
many electives they can choose such
as photography, drawing, painting,
and ceramics, food classes, foreign
languages, extra math classes, sew-
ing, and plenty more.

Sophomore Chloe Norton, is tak-
ing her elective, Foods 2 with Lynn
Roades, FCS, towards a goal she has
in her future.

"I started to have an interest
in food because I enjoy cooking in
general and it just calms me when I
do it," said Norton. Some people have
known that they wanted to do some-
thing with cooking since they were
little, but with Norton, her interest
came within the last year. "I want to
be a pastry chef to where I could be
on 'Cupcake Wars' and own my own
business where everyone buys from
me and knows the name of my busi-
ness," Norton said. Norton got her
inspiration for wanting to be a pastry
chef from watching "Ace of Cakes."
To her, cooking is like a whole new
world that she can be herself in
and does not have to worry about
impressing anyone at all. Norton's
dream school would be to go to a col-
lege in Florida, but she knows that
may not happen. With taking Foods
2, Norton figures it could possibly
give her a jump start to her dream
career with this elective here at GHS.

Another person that is taking an

elective to go towards a goal is se-
nior Joe Zuniga. He has taken many
drawing classes with Pat Sadler.

"I want to pursue drawing because
I've been drawing since I was little.
It's something I know I want to do
in life and something I'll be good
at," Zuniga said. Zuniga has been
drawing ever since he can remember
so he has a connection with his pad
of sketch paper, a pencil, and an
eraser. Some people may look as this
career that Zuniga wants to pursue
as something that isn't real or won't
get him far in life. To Zuniga though,
it is something he will stick with
throughout his life since he has had
an interest in drawing for so long. To
Zuniga, drawing made him unique,
so he continued drawing all the way
through high school so he didn't
have to feel like everyone else in
this school. When Zuniga draws, it's
like a whole new world for him. "I
feel like nothing is around me when
I draw and it brings out the best
in me," Zuniga said. When Zuniga
graduates this year, he is planning to
go to Ball State for his drawing ca-
reer as a cartoonist. "As a cartoon-
ist you can have so many different
ways to draw the people and how you
make their emotions come out," said
Zuniga.

Some people still have no idea what
they are going to do in their future,
and maybe the electives they have
chosen to take like technology, jour-
nalism, APC, and careers may inspire
them in some way, just like it did for
Norton and Zuniga.



Senior Jamie Lyn
Drummond was
concentrated on
her portrait in Pat
Sadler's 5th hour
drawing class.
"When I start draw-
ing, that is all I focus
on during the class
and the drawings
always surprise
me when they are
finished," said Drum-
mond.

cut • ting edge cours • es

col • lege cred • its (n.)

1. Credit hours given to students in high school who have taken college level courses. These credits can be redeemed at any college that accepts them, either as core class credits or elective credits.

2. Earning college credits in high school saves students time, money, and the stress of extra courses during the first year of college. College credit classes can be taken instead of electives, many of which are just seen as 'blow-off' classes.



Brianna Bias, 11



AP Government



Janessa Tamez, 11

For students who wanted to earn college credits as well as necessary high school credits, two professors from Ivy Technical Institute taught two different dual credit classes. First semester these two dual credit courses were held Monday through Thursday starting at eight thirty in the morning. English Composition 111 was taught by Gena Howard on Mondays and Wednesdays, and Personal Financing was taught by Maria Stanko on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Both courses were taught in GHS during first and second hour. Students enrolled in these dual credit classes did not have to come to school until third hour on Fridays.

The curriculum for English Composition consisted of writing essays and improving writing skills. Students were taught how to express their thoughts and put them into papers. Grammar was not taught in this particular class. Homework in the course was just pre-writing and working on papers or essays. "It was very interesting and prepared me for college," said senior Jessica Doman-

ski.

Junior Amelia Morales took the course because she likes English. With only ten students in the class the environment was pretty laid back. "It felt like a family," said Morales, "the smaller the class, the more you get to know each other."

In Personal Financing, students learned about the business aspect of the world. Senior Tyrell Tinnin took the dual credit courses because he needed another elective credit for the Academic Honors diploma. "We learned about investing in stocks, managing money, personal property, and the stock market," said Tinnin.

Some of the other topics discussed in class were taxes, loans, different kinds of insurances, and mortgages. The book assignments went along with each lesson in the chapter and were completed in class. However, some of them turned into homework assignments. "We had two days to do the homework, so we weren't completely buried even though there was usually a lot of book work in personal finance," said junior Melissa Miller.

To practice for the AP U.S. History test, students complete data based questions. These questions, DBQ's, are topics for essays on events of history. "Even though it is hard work, it will pay off in the end," said junior Courtney Hargis.



At her seat in Christine Chidichimo's third hour AP Calculus class, senior Sara Torres took notes and learned how to do problems for the next lesson. "Calculus was the hardest class of my life and a real challenge," said Torres.



Reviewing the homework assignment from the previous night in AP Calculus, senior Elizabeth Biancardi better understands the lesson. "Calculus is a hard class, but if you pay attention and do the work it's easy to get a good grade," said Biancardi.



Listening to the questions being answered, junior Chance's Walker participates in a final review game similar to jeopardy. The questions being asked were directly from the final. "AP Bio was hard, but I liked the labs," said Walker.



taking the

fast track

A variation of AP classes are provided at GHS for students to strive for an honors diploma.

9

students
enrolled in
AP Art
History

9

students
enrolled in
AP
Biology

34

students
enrolled in
AP
Calculus





To help out junior Kalie Lastagarkov in Biology II, juniors Alejandra Tellez and Ashley Brown explain the homework. "I'm taking the class to learn anatomy," said Tellez.

Working together, juniors Tori Louviere and Zach Muller finish the game they made for a project. "Bio II is so much easier than Bio I; I didn't expect it," said Louviere.



the stereotype of AP students

"To me, AP students are like every other human being in this world, but they are brighter than some of us."

-Quincy Moore, 11

"AP students are really intelligent, organized, and determined; they get things done and turned in on time."

-Amy Belcher, 12

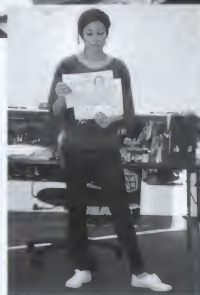
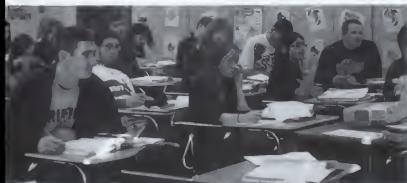
"AP students work too hard and they think they have to be perfect."

-Chelsea Shinkle, 10

the definition of AP students

"A student that is willing to work really hard and spend more time doing homework each night than the average student."

-Michelle Lesniewski, 11



Presenting to the rest of the second hour AP English 12 class, senior Nicky Nunez shows off her illustrations of the story of Adam and Eve. "The class liked the presentation because the pictures were funny," said Nunez.



Talking quietly, seniors Alejandro Cordova and Raymond Alvarez discuss their homework assignment in James Ford's spanish class. "AP Spanish is one of the hardest classes I've taken, but it's worth it," said Cordova.

24
students
enrolled in
AP Gov-
ernment

35
students
enrolled in
AP Spanish

26
students
enrolled in
AP History

22
students
enrolled in
AP English

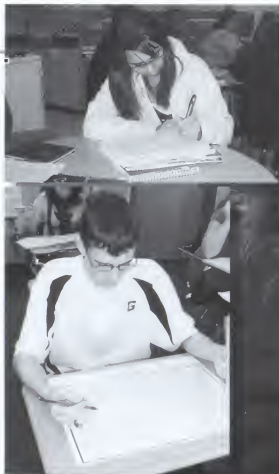
The best way to review is...

"I usually cram last minute the night before and during class."

-Alana Vega, 9

"I don't study for tests really at all."

-Matt Seiluns, 10



While writing on her Smartboard, Sarah Cohen, math, teaches factoring equations. "The best part about the Smartboard is the ability to go back to previous pages without erasing and then highlight and color-code important info," said Cohen.

While working on workbook pages in J.R. Ford's Spanish III class, junior Zach Muller works with a group. "The best part about group work is that we can all share our ideas which makes work much easier," said Muller.



Reviewing for vocabulary in Kristina Collard's junior English class consists of making note cards with words and definitions on them. Junior Elizabeth Kras works on her note cards. "I like the flashcards because [learn more when] write down information and then read over it," said Kras.

At the Hammond Career Center, seniors Chris Curnow and Zack Thomas do a radio show. "Career Center is cool because we get out of school and doing the radio show is awesome because we play what we want to get feedback on the music," said Curnow.

think • ing out • side the box

al•ter•na•tive
learn•ing (n.)

1. Of or relating to learning that is considered unconventional and is often seen as a challenge to traditional norms.
2. Students learning to keep occupied and building friendships with the help of team work. Often working outside of a desk, these activities help students avoid napping in important classes and being prepared for tests. Games, group work, or songs are a few examples of alternative learning.



Joe Vaclavik, 11



Jake Writt, 12



Nicholas Stassin, 11

In Eddie Covarrubias' choir classes, he demonstrated how to use Garage band. Junior Shi Fassoth was chosen to sing in the demonstration for Concert Choir II. "Garage band was really cool because it could change my voice and we recreated the song 'Just the Way You Are' and added our own spin to it," said Fassoth.

As students at Griffith High School, we spend roughly six and a half hours in a desk every day taking notes and passing tests. The repetition of sitting and staring at a chalkboard or whiteboard can drive any student insane. There are many different ways to switch up the typical learning environment. Many teachers play their self created review games to help students study before a big test. Christine Chidichimo, math, has the review game called 3-point basketball. The students split up into different "teams" and they get asked math related questions and write their answers on a white board. If answered correctly, one student gets to shoot a ball from one of three spots in the classroom. The points are earned by the number and distance of shots made. If a student makes a "three pointer," they get to sign their name on the 3-point basketball hall of fame poster.

"I absolutely love the three-point basketball review game because it really helps me to review and it's so funny to watch people try and make the legendary three pointer," said freshman Dana Lesniewski.

New to Griffith High School this year is the Spring Board system. Spring Board is the actual pre-college course for enriched students. The students who have Spring Board in their classroom are the enriched English sophomores and the enriched English juniors in Mrs. Vaclavik's class.

In Krystal Bandy's Biology II and advanced placement Biology Class, one assignment before the midterms

was to create a review game that was both creative and educational. One team made a game and titled it, Bio Bowling Bananza Party 3: Hula Hoop Edition. The object of the game was to knock down as many bowling pins as possible so that the question would be easier. While answering the question, one team member must hula hoop and answer the question before the hula hoop was dropped.

"The game was a creative way to study and have a ball at the same time even though Mrs. Bandy didn't think it would be an easy task to answer a question and hula hoop at the same time. When she tried it, the hoop fell in four seconds and she couldn't answer the question. It was hilarious and everyone wanted to play our amazing game," said junior Catena Root.

In Luann Pramuk's seventh hour advanced placement United States history class, an extra credit assignment was to re-write a classic Christmas carol and to make it an event in history. Juniors Michelle Lesniewski decided to take that challenge together. "Following the stanza of the original Christmas carol was the hardest part, but the singing was nerve-wracking," said Lesniewski.

Whether students are shooting some hoops in math class, bowling in Biology, rocking out in history, challenging their college aptitude in English, or watching teachers transform the smart boards in business, there will always be ways around snoozing in a desk all day. Alternative learning keeps minds sharp and students awake every single day.

My Point of View

"Me and Maciek thought that the Christmas carol, 'Christmas Canon Rock' was awesome so we practiced for five minutes before class and went all out with our guitars and amps for an extra credit assignment and Mrs. Pramuk's APUSH [A.P. United States History] class seemed to enjoy the performance."

-Robert Szabo, 11





Studies for...

Math Class- 1 hour each day

Art History- 1 hour each day

English- 1 hour each day

Economics- 1/2 hour each day

Chemistry- 1/2 hour each day

Along with studying she does many after school activities.

Each week she spends...

9 hours at Band

1 hour at International Club

2 hours at DECA

2 hours at Science Olympiad

2 hours at Science Superbowl

2 hours at Math Superbowl

GHS Attendance Policy

You can only miss eight (8) days a semester. If you miss any more than eight days, you will not get the credit for that particular class.

Exceptions

-Field Trips

-Military examinations

-College visits

-Deaths and funerals of immediate family members

-If you are sick and are not well enough to be in school or hospitalized

-Court

-Religious holidays that fall on a school day, but you have to have administration approval

-Doctor visits, odontologist appointments count toward your eight days you can miss a semester.

having fun in the not so favorite class

Math class can be a challenge. You take many notes that are confusing if you do not pay attention in class. "Mrs. Chidichimo make the notes organized and less confusing," said sophomore Stefanie Soy.

Passing English class can be difficult if you do not study. English classes at GHS can consist of: reading books, writing reports, memorizing vocabulary words, and giving class speeches. "English class is hard for me because of all the books we have to read and all the reports we have to do with them," said sophomore Tyler Thomas



Physics consists of taking notes and doing homework. Having small classes can be a plus because of all the help you can get from the teacher. "Preparation for the rocket lab and shooting them off our was really exciting," said senior Kyle Jursic.



"I went to talk to Mr. Golumbeck because I am having a hard time passing Earth Space Science," said freshman Andrew Landon. Guidance counselors help plan schedules and counsel students. Michelle Uchitz and Tom Golumbeck are the counselors at the high school.

graduation requirements

core 40

English- 8 credits

Math- 6-8 credits Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre- Calculus, Calculus

Science- 6 credits 2 in Biology, 2 in Chemistry or Physics, 2 additional from Chemistry or Physics, Earth Space Science, Advanced Biology Advanced Chemistry, or Advanced Physics

Social Studies- 6 credits 2 In U.S. History, 1 in Government, 1 in Economics, 2 in World History

Physical Education- 2 credits

Health- 1 credit

8 additional credits from those listed above: Foreign Language, Fine Arts, Computer Applications or Programming

Electives to complete- diploma requirements 8 to 10 credits

ISTEP+ Graduation Qualifying Exam



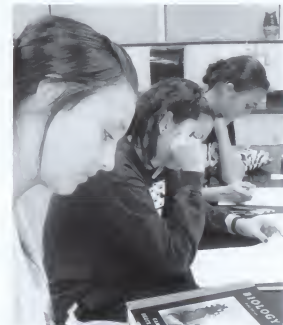
the clas•ses that mat•ter

core class•es (n.)

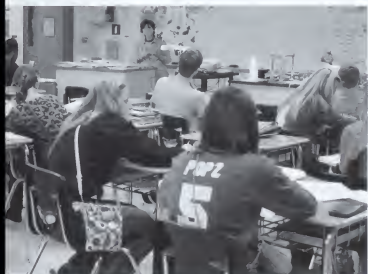
1. Five classes offered at Griffith High School, consisting of English, science, math, foreign language, and history.
2. These classes usually are harder than electives, and students are held accountable for the many hours of homework that students dread each night. In the core classes, students learn the basics of every field or major. As despised as they are, the information that is branded into students' minds in these classes will be used throughout the rest of their lives.

How do you pass those hard to pass classes?

- 1 Cramming is the key for Maricarmen Meraz, 12. "For my Pre-Calculus class I waited until the night before and studied the whole chapter. It took approximately two and a half hours."
- 2 Studying right after school helps Alyssa Niewiadomski, 11. "Studying right after school helps me, so then later in the night you don't stress out about doing it."
- 3 Passing classes by not studying is something that some students here at GHS do. "I don't like to study because I don't feel like it. I would much rather be napping or drinking Kool-aid," said Andrea Yeager, 12.
- 4 Making note cards to study helps many students. "To study for class I use note cards. I usually write or draw pictures to remind me what I need to know," said Janessa Temez, 11.
- 5 Using the notes that the teacher gives you helps freshmen Josh Kime. "In biology class I study the notes that Mrs. Wencloff gives us. Although the notes are nothing like what is on the test," said Kime.
- 6 Vocab is a challenge for some students. Students have to study a set of twenty different words every week. "I just keep saying the words over and over in my head until I have the words memorized for the test," said junior John Morikis.



Working together in class is something you do a lot in most classes. Senior Casey McDaniel likes to work in groups. "Working in groups lets you escape from the teacher, and you get to listen to each others advice," said McDaniel. Sometimes working in groups can be very beneficial. Students can get ideas from peers that a teacher would not have taught during the lecture.



Taking notes in Jane Villaroman's Chem II class can be hard at times. "Mrs. KV talks quietly and it is hard to take notes. She talks so quietly so I become distracted easily from sitting in the back of the room," said senior Presley Corich.

academic honors

English- 8 credits

Math- 8 credits- in Algebra II, Pre-Calculus or Calculus

Science- 6 credits- 2 credits in Biology, 2 credits in either Chemistry or Physics, plus 2 additional credits in Biology, Physics, Chemistry, or Earth/ Space Science

Social Studies- 6 credits in World History, U.S. History, Government, and Economics

Foreign language- 6 credits in one language or 4 credits in a language plus 4 credits in a different language

Physical Education- 2 credits

Health- 1 credit

Fine Arts- 2 credits from music or another area that encompasses visual, oral, performing and creative modes of student learning

Electives- 9 credits

ISTEP+ Graduation Qualifying Exam

Grade point average of a "B" or better, no grade lower than a "C-" may count toward the diploma.

put to the test ex·per·i·men·ta·tions

labs (n.)

- 50 experiments set up by science geeks to try to find out something that will drastically change the world in some way.
- An alternative way of learning offered to students to keep them interested and entertained while learning.



Joey Rivera, 10



Ezekiel Del Val, 9



Jared Lowe, 9

Throughout the year teachers constantly have to provide and plan out new activities that include hands on learning for students, in order to keep them interested in the class. Doing hands on labs or experiments are a common way to make a boring lesson more interesting. For instance, in psychology class when students are learning about the brain, Jenna Berzy set up an experiment to dissect a one. "I do the lab because who doesn't like to dissect a brain?" said Berzy.

Along with amusement comes responsibility because some labs may be dangerous. To prevent students from misbehaving, the science department makes every student sign a safety contract with lab rules and punishments for wrong behavior. "We have the safety contract so we can go over rules and so the students are accountable for discipline, and any other issues there may be," said Julie Wencloff, science department head. Also to ensure safety, an instruction packet is given out before each lab. In the packet there is information on toxic or harmful chemicals, dangerous tools, and anything else that needs to be handled with caution. The lab packet tells the reader everything they will need to successfully complete the lab. "The lab packet is done to brief students on upcoming exercises directions, procedures, and any safety concerns," said Wencloff.

Although it may not seem like it,

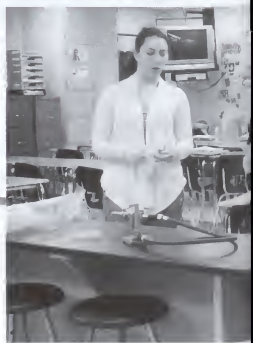
Bent over their work, juniors Crystal Vanwhite and Elizabeth Booker take the temperature of a liquid. "I am a hands on learner, so labs help me learn easier," said Booker.



foods class is basically an all lab class. "I definitely consider foods a lab class. Foods offer students who may not succeed with other classes a chance to get credits," said Lynn Roades. Throughout the semester students in the class do labs almost everyday. However, the labs are not wacky science experiments or launching rockets, the labs are simply cooking.

With a class full of sophomores and juniors Emily O'Brien's chemistry class can get loud. However, O'Brien keeps the class in line. "It's expected that the class stays quiet and working. They are accountable for all their discipline problems," said O'Brien. Although some of the labs may be simple, they provide a good way for students who do not learn well from hands on activities. Sophomore Andy Duhon can relate to this way of learning. "I think it is easier to learn when you can see things done verses reading it in a book," said Duhon.

Through out the year, students always talk about their favorite classes and what they enjoy most. For science classes, many student's favorite part of the class includes the labs they've done. When it comes down to it, labs and experiments are probably the best way to alternatively teach students because of its hands on learning methods. "I like seeing students enjoy the material that we are working on and they get to see it in person," said Berzy.



no need for notes

Labs offer a fun learning environment that does not require much reading or sitting in a desk all hour.

50

labs done
in Biology I

45

labs done
in
Biology II

my point
of view
“The best part about doing labs is spending time with friends while experimenting.”

-Rosemary Bartochowski, 9

With their lab gear on, seniors Rachel Mierzwa, Katie Cahill, and Kylee Ulm begin to answer their questions. “I love doing labs, because I get out of class work and it’s exciting to see reactions occur,” said Mierzwa.

Fully concentrated, sophomore Alison-dra Acevedo drops HCL into a test tube “I liked seeing substances change colors,” said Acevedo. The experiment was done during Emily O’Brien’s Chemistry A class.



Going over directions in Krystal Bandy’s Bio II class juniors Alice Duhon, Ryan Zubrick, Ted Fitzgerald, and senior Matthew Bluhm prepare for the lab. “I read the lab directions to help me understand what to do and so I don’t mess up,” said Duhon.

Focusing in on her work, junior Rachel Garastik begins to pull apart a sheep brain. “The brain lab was interesting but gross at the same time,” said Garastik. Garastik was one of 20 students who took part in dissecting the brain.

25

labs done
in
Chemistry A

25

labs done
in
Chemistry II

25

labs in
Physics

11

labs in
Earth
Science



On Saturday, November 13th, the drama department put on their final show for the annual Drama Night. The cast and crew members get pumped up for the show by dancing and giving pep talks. "I feel that drama is a great opportunity for individuals of different walks of life within our high school to come together and get excited about performing and doing what they love. In order to get rid of pre-show jitters, I like to get everyone together and dance in the green room," said senior Jeremy Starks.

par·tic·i·pat·ing

(v): 1. To take part in some of the many extracurricular activities at GHS which include performing, volunteering, team bonding, and raising awareness. Students had over 35 clubs to choose from to get involved.

For some students at GHS, activities such as school, work, and sports was just not enough to keep them occupied. These students were able to choose from a plethora of club activities to complete their busy lives. For some students, being in a club was an easy way to lend a helping hand to people in need, and for others the participation in a club was just something they could put down on their resume for college.

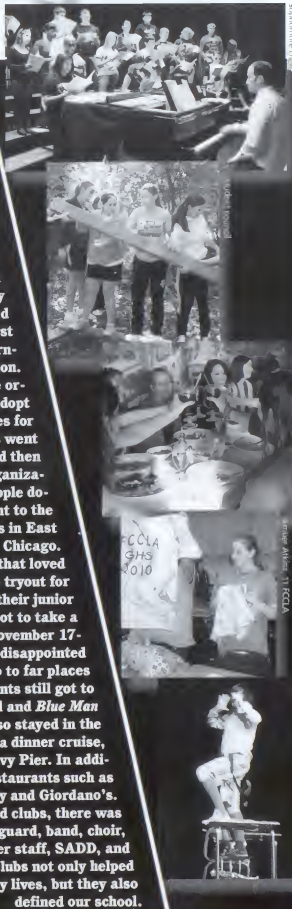
Whatever the reason, students were able to pick from about 35 clubs that they could participate in during the 2010-2011 school year.

For the creative mind, students were able to join the art club, which met every Tuesday after school. If a person wanted to volunteer their time to others in need, then Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) was for them. On Wednesday, December 8th, a select group of FCCLA students took a trip to a nursing home located in Highland. They took fabric and stuffing with them so they were able to make Christmas tree shaped pillows with the elderly people. The day before the field trip, the students stayed after school and baked cookies that they could also bring along. This year, International Club had a whole new approach to their activities. Once a month, the club members went out to eat at a restaurant that had a different type of cuisine. The first new restaurant that International club went to this year was La Caretta, which serves Mexican food. In November, they took a trip to Ciao Bella Ristorante in Schererville. The lunches were usually on Saturdays around noon and the club fundraised money to help defray the costs of the meals.

This year, there was a new Student Council sponsor, Jenna Berzy, Social Studies. This group planned the Homecoming dance, spirit week, the annual food drive, Pantherpalooza talent show, and celebrated teacher appreciation week. The annual student council lock-in that was usually in December, moved to January because of sports conflicts. For the academically motivated students, they were able to apply to be inducted into National Honor Society. This club met on the first Wednesday

of every month. For their first service project, they decided to sponsor a toy drive on December 10th in which the admission fee was either a toy or three dollars. Treasurer Anna Schell, senior, came up with this idea because *Toy Story 3* was released just in time for the holiday season. The club decided to donate the toys to First Steps, which is a government funded organization. With these donations, the organization was able to adopt three additional families for Christmas. The members went out and bought gifts and then wrapped them for this organization. The toys that people donated for admission, went to the Carmelite Home for Girls in East Chicago.

For the senior students that loved to sing, they were able to tryout for Chorale at the end of their junior year. These members got to take a trip to Chicago during November 17-19. Although some were disappointed because they did not go to far places like years past, the students still got to see *The Lion King* musical and *Blue Man Group*. The chorale also stayed in the Trump Tower and took a dinner cruise, called the *Spirit*, at Navy Pier. In addition, they also ate at restaurants such as The Cheesecake Factory and Giordano's. Along with the mentioned clubs, there was also Booster Club, color guard, band, choir, yearbook and newspaper staff, SADD, and DECA. All of these clubs not only helped shape the students busy lives, but they also defined our school.



do•ing what we do best

a • chieve • ments (n.)

1. Accomplishments made by clubs at GHS, such as participating in award-winning plays or joining academic competitions.

2. Making a difference in a students' own life, or making a difference in another. Coming together as a team or club to do things that once seemed impossible.

One of the biggest accomplishments that a DECA member can achieve is qualifying for the state competition. Qualifying for state means placing in the top 8 at district. At district, students take a 100 question test timed for 60 minutes and they also do roll play in front of judges. This year, district took place at Munster High

"I love our advisor because he inspires us to do good during competition." *Matthew Grahovac, 12*

School on January 8th. Although DECA is more of an individual club, some teams consisted of two team members. "I like individual events because you have to be spontaneous and creative by yourself," said Andy Duhon, 10.

Griffith did great this year, with many of our very own DECA members participat-

ing in state. There was a total of 23 members who qualified for the state competition this

year. DECA is a way for students to gain responsibility and learn new things about the business world that students would not learn in an ordinary class. "We try to prepare students to be prepared for the real world," said Scott MacFarland, business.

State took place on March 6th, 7th, and 8th in Indianapolis. At the state competition members took another test and one or two more role plays. During free time members were allowed to go out to eat and go shopping. Other members chose to stay in their room and hangout.

While standing around in the auditorium, under Debra Clark and experienced state president Chris Chung, a lot

like a celebrity talking to Chris Chung, because he is the state president of DECA," said Cadiz.

how did they get on?



"To get on the Panther Press staff, I had to maintain an A or B in journalism, and it's a pretty hard class."

Melissa Martinez, 10

"In order to get a big part in the school play, I don't hold back and I just give it my all at auditions."

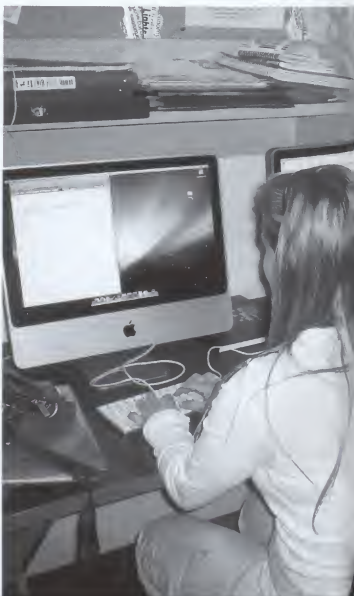


Avery Malerich, 11



Working hard on a helicopter project, junior Sarah Clark and seniors Robert Gonzales and Carlos Jimenez show their dedication to the club. "I like Science Olympiad because I think science is interesting," said Jimenez.

During newspaper class, freshman Lauren Hernandez works on typing her story. "I really enjoy newspaper, but deadlines are very frustrating," said Hernandez.





In a Science Olympiad meeting, sophomore Allison Nolan shows her interest while watching senior Stephanie Baker. "We were trying to figure out the dimensions of a tower we were creating," said Nolan.



Sitting in a National Honor Society meeting, junior Amy Russell listens to information about the spaghetti dinner and volunteers to help for the blood drive. "I love NHS because I think it helps the community," said Russell.



did *you* know?



"I have been captain two years in a row for the English Academic Superbowl."

-Jillian Holtzer, 10

To make it to state for **Academic Superbowl** held at Purdue Lafayette, students must place in the **top seven** of their class at the regional round. The categories are **English, science, fine arts, and social studies**. There are three competitions: invitational, **area**, and state. To win, you have to have more **points** than any other **school**. You earn points by getting the problem **right**.

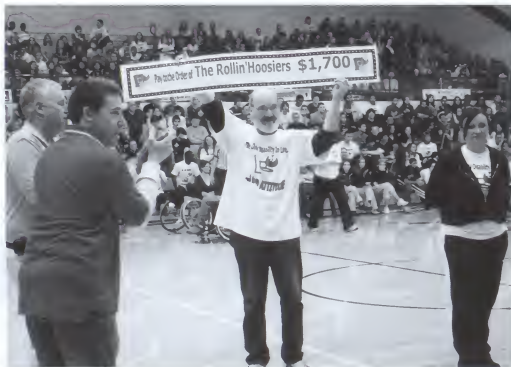
which club does which fundraiser?



1. C 2. A 3. B

1. bowling fundraiser
2. blood drive
3. food drive

Making business in Jim Graff's photo room, sophomore Selena Zamudio sells Chris Benko a Hershey's Milk Chocolate bar. "I think selling candy is an effective way to raise money for the newspaper's final issues in full color," said Zamudio.



The Rollin' Hoosiers received all profits made from the T-shirt sales for the Wheelchair Basketball Extravaganza. This game is held in March, National Disabilities Awareness month. "It's phenomenal to watch the kids play," said Thom Howell.

FCCLA took a trip to the Humane Society Calumet Area on March 23, to bring supplies for the animals. Junior Chance's Walker took pictures of the animals. "The animals were really appreciative," said Walker.



smooch•es for

nov•els



To thank Student Council a poster was displayed in the window of the library from the assistants Juanita Raybourne and Christine Wroblewski. "Student Council came to our rescue, we had a lot of requests for the newest books of different series and new books by the students' favorite authors. So their purchases helped us stretch our budget," said Raybourne.

fund•rais•ing (v.)

1. Selling or buying pizza or candy to support a club; donating cans of food, pennies, or toys.

2. Doing extra work to help others and bring them some sort of relief; to give to those in need.

Student Council sold suckers for Valentine's Day called Smooches in the beginning of February. Two days of sales were lost due to snow days. Profits reached five hundred dollars. One thousand two hundred Smooches were sold. Each Smooch was seventy-five cents. Two Smooches could have been purchased for one dollar.

A

message and sucker were delivered on

Valentine's day seventh hour to students.

Jenna Berzy, Student Council advisor, said

this was her first year selling and they ran out of Smooches. Next year they will be buying more to sell.

A portion of the money earned from

selling suckers was donated to the library.

The library's spending budget was doubled; it had been pretty low before due to the school's budget cuts. Young adult fiction books and series were purchased. "We hope everyone comes in and reads them," said Christine Wroblewski, library assistant.

"Student Council helped by giving us money the student body helped too." Christine Wroblewski, library



National Honor Society member, senior Megan Gale, counted pennies on Wednesday, April 20 from three to four o'clock after school. "Four people spent time counting Mrs. Colard's pennies only, that doesn't include other classes's pennies," said Gale.

During sociology, in first hour, junior Holly Shew buys a Smooch to send candy to a friend. "Sending Smooches is a great way to give to a friend and help out the school," said Shew.

a step

a • bove the rest

lead•er (n.)

1. A person who leads or commands a group, organization, or country.
2. A total of 28 clubs with a few leaders in each shows GHS how many people here want to rise above the rest and shine.

Here at GHS, we are told we can either be leaders or followers. Some of us choose to follow everyone else or others choose to shine as leaders in activities or different groups. These people that choose to do this have certain qualities that make them rise above others and show us that they can be leaders.

Honesty and being encouraging are some of those big qualities that show us

encouraging to everyone, and treat everyone as if they were a friend instead of just members in a club," said Schell. Another part

"The word quality definitely applies to being a successful leader. You need to have focus, respect for others, and the ability to listen to others in order to be a successful leader."
-Jeremy Starks, 12 editor of Panther Press

they are capable of being a leader, just like senior

Anna Schell. As president of DECA, there are a lot of responsibilities that Schell has to deal with. "I try to keep everything organized, be

of being a leader that Schell mentioned is having the leadership to make others feel comfortable and to help expand numbers in the group. It is important that the club has enough younger people to keep the tradition alive the following years. "Keeping everyone together is one of the biggest challenges that comes along with being a leader, so all I do is to make sure they know they will always have me as a friend," said Schell.

At a senior class council meeting in October, the members decided on graduation options. "We had to finalize all our choices early so everything would be ready for graduation," said senior Art Garcia.

At a Booster Cub meeting, senior Kelly Jones was informing everyone about a field trip to a hockey game in Kelli Bridges's, foreign language, room. "As president I have a lot of responsibilities since we do things for sectionals and try to keep the school up with the spirit," said Jones.



officers (n.) 1. People that hold office in a group or service and have authority.



"As president of class council, I run and organize the meetings and make sure that everyone is aware of their responsibilities."
-Sarah Guistolisi, 11

"As vice-president of class council, I take over the role that the president can not do at that point in time."
-Amy Russell, 11



"Since I am the treasurer of class council, I make sure we have enough money to spend on things for our float and for Prom planning."
-Stacie Hansen, 11

"As secretary of class council, I take attendance and I write down everything that happens during the meetings and I enjoy it because it keeps me engaged with other students and class council."
-Hanna Vrabely, 11





...me that if I put
the Bible with
junior Melisa
Hall and Cody
Tripp. "Everyone
goes through trials
but they don't
go through them
alone," said Oliver.

"We discuss
it and to help raise
money with her
fellow ECCLA
members, junior
Emily Witvoet
starts to take
charge. "Being
president, I get to
contribute all of
my ideas and help
out as much as I
can," said Witvoet.



so you know how many
people it takes to put **The
Edge** together?

4

seniors Chrissy Colgrove (editor,
pictured), Jillian Dixon (pictured),
junior Cali Lemus, and freshman
Karley Spriggs



During the SADD
meeting on the mor-
ning of January 27, in
the LGI, senior Alyssa
Lanting was describing
the details for upcom-
ing fundraisers. "As
co-president of SADD it
takes a lot of work and
responsibility but in the
end Mia Campbell and
I get things done," said
Lanting.

On January 12th
in Mrs. Vaclavik's
room, National
Honor Society was
discussing the blood
drive and spaghetti
dinner. "I enjoy be-
ing in Honor Society
because I like to help
people and it's good
for volunteering,"
said junior Elizabeth
Kras.



how many hours does it take?

1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

parade practice Tuesday-Thursday
for 4 weeks in the summer

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

band camp Monday-Friday
for 2 weeks in the summer

3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday
marching/pep band practice in the
fall and winter

In the summer, the band performs at homecoming, senior concert and December 12. While playing "March King," junior Nathan Bailey keeps the band together and the tempo quick. "Before the last song, band director Jason Pearman almost forgot to announce the 50/50 raffle," said Bailey.

Second, before tossing his flag into the air, senior Jamie Drummond performs at the first game of the season.

The color guard gets prepared by stretching and helping each other with makeup and hair. "We spent tons of time together learning the routines and being patient," said Drummond.



With her little brother by her side, sophomore Ellen Johnson and her brother Nick Johnson march down Wiggs Street in the homecoming parade. "We were all very proud of our performance in the parade," said Ellen.

Looking uniform and professional, senior Sarah Hurdish leads the Griffith Marching Black and Gold through the homecoming parade. "I like wearing my white gloves like Michael Jackson," said Hurdish.



tun•ing in to de•fy all odds

All clubs aim to achieve the same goal: to prepare its members for life after high school and teach important lessons, such as teamwork and responsibility. Band aims for that same goal, but it's a club like no other.

"Performances take hours to perfect," said senior Ashley Matthews. The band suffered from a lack of money

*"Okay guys, just one more time."
-Jason Pearman, band*

through-out the year for music, competitions, and instrument repairs. Although, the members still kept their heads up and gave it their all during halftime. "After I perform, I feel proud of myself and the band," said sophomore Sarah Velasquez.

As they progress through their four years of band, the members become close. Bonding plays a huge role amongst the members. Play-

ing a game of red rover or eating pizza before a halftime show are just some examples of bonding. When a club becomes close, traditions start to emerge. "The last day of band camp, upperclassmen sneak up behind underclassmen and trip them while they're marching backwards," said freshman Brian Stinnett.

"The people in band are definitely like my family," said junior Amanda Falcon. So how would band be classified? In all aspects, it's a club, a class, and a sport.

band (n.)

1. A particular club that sets apart from the rest; includes 20 students that participate in marching band, pep band and concert band; assisted by the color guard.
2. Five clarinets, two oboes, two trumpets, one baritone saxophone, three tenor saxophones, two bass clarinets, five flutes, nine color guard members, and one drumline combined to create one sound. "One Band, One Sound".



Senior Imani Ross and the other band members perform a song at the girl's varsity basketball game. The team won the game and the band played the school song. "Pep band is a great way to wrap up the year. It really shows how all the friendships have grown," said Ross.



While performing "A Carol Triptych" at the winter concert in the auditorium, junior Alyssa Niewiadomski plays her clarinet to the best of her abilities. "The audience applauded and praised us," said Niewiadomski.

win•ning is half the bat•tle

compe•ti•tion (n.)

1. An event where people or teams compete to be the best.

2. There are six clubs that go to competition including pantherettes and cheerleading. There are five teams in academic super bowl and the students involved in competition try their best to beat the other schools and be number one.

For the first time in ten years, DECA went to ICDC which is International Career Development Conference. Sophomore Ross Myers participated in automatic services and senior Ray Alvarez participated in the category of sports and entertainment marketing. Senior Anna Schell also went on the trip because she received the scholarship DECA Finish

Line. Sophomore Blaire Gearhart went for training to be the District One President. As President she is in charge of being able to aid schools in the area. ICDC took place on April 29 through May 3 in

Orlando, Florida at Disney World. "I was very excited to participate in ICDC because we haven't gone to ICDC in ten years," said Myers.

Alvarez and Myers mostly studied at home, but also studied after school once before they left for Florida.

At competition, Meyers qualified as a finalist and scored 85 out of 100 on Roll play. In Florida, Schell received a 1,000 scholarship out of 15 people in the nation. "I learned a lot at the workshops and it was a wonderful experience," said Gearhart. She attended the leadership workshops everyday.

"I was excited to participate in ICDC because we haven't gone to ICDC in ten years." Ross Myers, 10



Practicing a duo for ISSMA, junior Alyssa Niewiadomski was playing the clarinet with seniors Cassie Christenson and Megan McVicker. "Band is very entertaining, and I've been in band for seven years," said Niewiadomski.

At Ivy Tech in Lafayette on March 12th, senior Ryan Fisch was setting up a mouse trap car. "Even though the mouse trap car doesn't always work the way I want it to, I still had a great time and it was a interesting experience," said Fisch.

what is the difference between pantherettes and cheerleading?

pantherettes

cheerleading

• Only 1/3 of the team can do tricks that are more advanced

• Have 2-3 minutes to do their dance

• They have some solos

• This year they did a pom dance and a hip hop dance as a team



"I like competition because of the anticipation I get when waiting to see what place we get and that the team gets to spend the day together." Sydney Hilbrich, 9

• They have 2.5 minutes to dance, cheer, and do stunts

• They only have one performance

• They have a jump off

• Don't have music playing during the whole performance



"I like competition because it is exciting and it's the first year we got to go to competition in five years." Kyra Scheeringa, 12





About a month before the drama state competition in Indianapolis, junior Ryan Graan was practicing his lines with the other people in the play "Senior Jeremy Starks always made 'Mothers always care' hilarious," said Graan.

The wheel chair basketball game took place in the main gym in March 11th. "Basketball is my favorite sport and I like playing in front of my schoolmates," said sophomore Jodi Morales.



For the Science Olympiad competition, senior Melissa Thrall flies her helicopter. The helicopter only flew for nine seconds. "Through Science O I made five different kinds of helicopters, and I could never figure out how to make it fly for a long time," said Thrall.

On February 29th, freshman Samantha Fuller sang in the choir recital. "To be able to sing alone you have to have courage and confidence in yourself to be able to get through the song and do a good job," said Fuller.



be•yond the dra•ma

what's my job?

dra•ma (n.)
1. One club where a group of kids can show off their acting talent, learn how to use a sound board and adjust lights, or paint a set used by the actors and actresses twice a year.
2. A time consuming, physically exhausting, bonding fulfilled club that many kids dedicate their free time to. A great way to express themselves and portray someone other than who they are.

Every person on Earth has a hobby, a niche that they enjoy practicing. Some play instruments, some play a sport, and others create art. However, how many of these hobbies do you get the chance to step out of the comfortable personality you're used to and create something new? Drama gives everyone that chance.

All members of the drama department have different reasons for joining the club. "I joined drama my freshman year because it was something new and interesting that I wouldn't normally try," said senior Megan Gale.

Tough situations in life

require a person to face fears or take risks. "To be an actress, you have to be comfortable being in front of an audience and doing silly things

you're not used to," said senior Amanda Boyer. To be apart of drama, a person has to withhold many responsibilities and handle stressful moments. "A stressful part of drama is remembering everything from lines to cues to lyrics," said senior Dontrell Kelly.

"I participate in drama because I love singing and dancing with my friends. Everyone was very welcoming," said junior Amelia Morales.

"This is a Test. A what? This is a Test."



Looking to gain some energy before performing, junior Jessica Smith catches some z's. Smith played as one of the students in Chrissy Colgrove's production, "This is A Test." "I loved the part that I played. I made everyone laugh," said Smith.

During Tech Week, senior Chrissy Colgrove performs "Circulation", one of the songs from School House Rock Live at rehearsal. After practice, the cast went out to eat at Steak 'n Shake. "This play was a lot more stressful than usual because we didn't have as much time to rehearse," said Colgrove.

Actress



"Our job is to become the different characters of a story. We learn choreography and lyrics to songs and lines of the play."
Kylee Ulm, 12

Lights and Sound



"My responsibility is to make sure all microphones work properly and are turned on and off at the right times." Donny Hoover, 11

Set Crew



"We build sets for production, make and paint props, and learn cues to move props and open or close the curtain. We're also responsible for moving props during production."
Ryan Zubrick, 11



Caught without a playbill, senior Robbie Szabo has his arm signed by the cast. "Senior Michelle Sopotnik put my name on my arm," said Szabo.

After drama night junior David Stokes signs and exchanges playbills. "It's great to write about friends and all the fun times we've had together," said Stokes.



Before stepping on the stage for drama night, sophomore Bri-Anne Andriessen applies her makeup. "I loved the cheerleader part I played in the production; it was exciting to be on stage," said Andriessen.

get•ting to•geth•er

bond-ing (n.)

1. There are 35 clubs at Griffith High School. In each club, at least one new friendship is made.

2. Many students at Griffith High School are involved in clubs that interest them. While doing the club requirements, students get to know each other better and make new friends.

There are many clubs to get involved in at Griffith High School. By joining a club, students can make new friends with all the meetings and bonding activities. They can fulfill their interest in the club they choose. There are different bonding activities in certain clubs. Booster Club has meetings every now and then. Some meetings involve what is planned out for that month

"I love Booster Club and I think everyone bonds well and I guess that's why I enjoy it so much, because no one argues." Paige Obermeyer, 9

with either making goodie bags or signs. Booster Club's way of bonding is making goodies bags or signs for all the team players in the school. "I love Booster Club and I think everyone bonds well.

I guess that's why I enjoy it, because no one argues," said freshman Paige Obermeyer.

International Club goes out to eat at different restaurants

and that is how students try different foods and bond with their fellow school mates.

"I think there is good bonding in International Club. Students get to have new experiences with unique foods. We also get to meet other people from different grades," said sophomore Kristian Ayala.

In the variety of clubs available, students can build new friendships through bonding activities.



At Ciao Bella for International Club, senior Lindsay Pierce was bonding with her fellow clubmates. "The experience was very informative," said Pierce.

Seniors Amy Zellers, Kyle Jursic and Brian Beaupain grab some food at Bridges before they sang for the Rotary Club. "The best part of the day was getting free food," said Jursic.



what do you think about Secret Santa and what did you get?

"I like the idea of it (Secret Santa), but you have to put effort in or otherwise it's cheap. I received a sketchbook and colored pencils in newspaper from junior Marris Mihalcik."

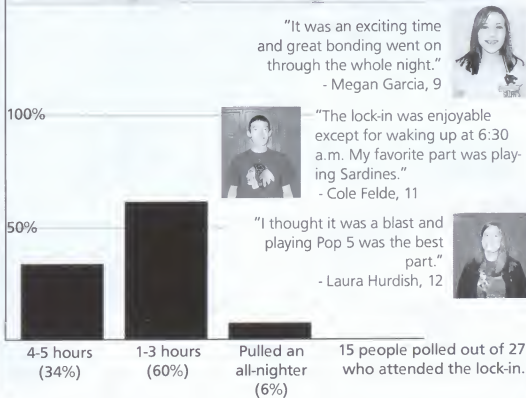
-Joe Zuniga, 12

at her table. "I really enjoyed the luncheon because I got to taste a variety of Italian foods and talked to people I probably would never talk to," said Younker.

In Newspapers, they played Secret Santa and had a Christmas party on the Friday before winter break ended. Ryan Zubrick was sophomore Julia Saberniak's Secret Santa. "I thought it was really exciting to exchange gifts with friends. I hugged Zubrick because the gift was really thoughtful," said Saberniak.



how many hours did the average student council representative sleep at the lock-in??



"It was an exciting time and great bonding went on through the whole night."

- Megan Garcia, 9



"The lock-in was enjoyable except for waking up at 6:30 a.m. My favorite part was playing Sardines."

- Cole Felde, 11



"I thought it was a blast and playing Pop 5 was the best part."

- Laura Hurdish, 12



one voice

for all to hear

Garage Band (n.)

1. A program made for Mac computers in which voices can be recorded and changed, while sound effects and instruments are added in.

2. Played in Griffith choir classes, enabling high school students to be able to hear themselves as they would sound in real recording studios. Turns average singers into temporary rock stars.

For many students here at GHS, they elect to make singing a part of their everyday school experience by joining choir. Choir is offered in grades nine through twelve, and there are four different levels of choir.

At the end of every year, students must try out for the next level of choir. Students sing a song of their choice, and sometimes have to sing certain notes in front of Eddie Covarrubias, choir director. "Trying out is my least favorite part of the year," said freshman Brienne Basham. "To lessen the

tension, I rapped a Taylor Swift song this year."

This year, choir classes experimented with Garage Band, a

program on which voices can be recorded then altered. Many students recorded themselves singing, and added in instruments.

For the annual Chorale trip, the 2010-2011 Chorale went to Chicago. They saw the Blue Man Group, the Broadway play 'Lion King,' and stayed in the Trump Hotel. "The trip was amazing! My favorite part was seeing the Blue Man Group," said senior Amy Belcher.

"Choir introduced me to many new types of music and expression." Shi Fassoth, 11



Eating outside during the trip to Chicago, the Chorale takes time to relax. "The trip was really exciting and we did a lot of things that people usually don't do in Chicago," said senior Dontrell Kelly.

To help out for the winter concert, sophomores Robert Cheek and Brett Brinkley assemble a fake Christmas tree. "We like to help out Mr. C. He has a lot to do so we lessen the load," said Cheek.





The Choral Ensemble ended a lunch and performance at Bridge's Scoreboard and Christmas time. "After we sang, they fed us a really good buffet," said senior Clarence Young.

They were the only choir rehearse in the auditorium. "Choir rehearsals help. We get the feel for the environment that we're going to perform in," said sophomore Joey Rivera.

we don't stop until we drop!

"At a dress rehearsal, I was standing on the back riser. I got dizzy and sat down, then passed out on [junior] Brooke Brinkley's legs. I woke up and tried to stand up, but passed out again!"

Hanna Vrabely, 11

"I was sick during the choir concert, and while we were singing, the lights were really bright. I got hot and dizzy, and passed out on to the rail behind the back riser."

Ryan Camp, 10

"During a choir concert, I was about to walk down for my solo. I got really dizzy and nervous, and passed out. About five people fell around me trying to catch me. It was so embarrassing!"

Sarah Galambos, 10



"Chorale is a lot different than regular choir," said senior Jasmine Mata. Along with carolling in the halls, Chorale also took a trip to Chicago and performed at the Wheelchair Basketball game.

Preparing for her solo, senior Chrissy Colgrove is accompanied by Eddie Covarubias, director, on the piano. "I always get a little nervous before my solos," said Colgrove.



pre•par•ing

for what lies a•head

pre•pare (v.)
1. To put something in proper condition or readiness
2. What all students involved in one of the 35 different clubs do to get ready for meetings, concerts, dances, etc.

Preparing for club events is not always fun, but all the hard work usually ends up paying off in the long run. Whether the event is a dance, competition, or just a meeting, each club has a unique way of preparing for them. When Student Council prepares for the Homecoming dance, they spent an hour coming up with theme ideas, and even-

the tables to the walls. "A lot of hard work and time was required from everybody, and when we were done, it showed," said

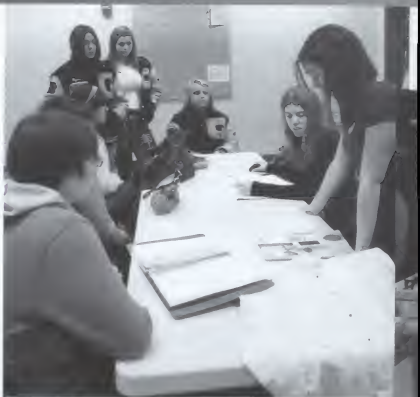
freshman Amy Bubala, 9. "Everyone worked together, and the dance was a success from it."

However, preparing for a competition, such as one for DECA, is a completely different process. "When preparing for a competition we usually take online tests on our subject as well as practicing role plays," said sophomore Ross Myers.



With only a few days until the choir concert, sophomores Brett Brinkley and Robert Cheek help decorate the auditorium stage. "I didn't really mind helping decorate the auditorium since it made the stage look more festive," said Brinkley.

Getting ready to go on stage for their play "The Birds," sophomores Jackie Johns and Blaire Gearhart make sure their costumes are just right. "The costumes were much different than what we're used to, but that also made it easier for me to get into character," said Johns.



pre·par·ation|77

giv•ing back

vol•un•teer (n.)

1. A person who works for an organization without being paid.
2. Giving back to Griffith's small, close-knit community. Doing good not for recognition or money, but for the knowledge that you're making a difference.

Volunteering is something that most people don't find time for. Whether it's giving a speech on Suicide Awareness Week or going caroling at a nursing home, volunteering is a worth while way to meet people and help the less fortunate.

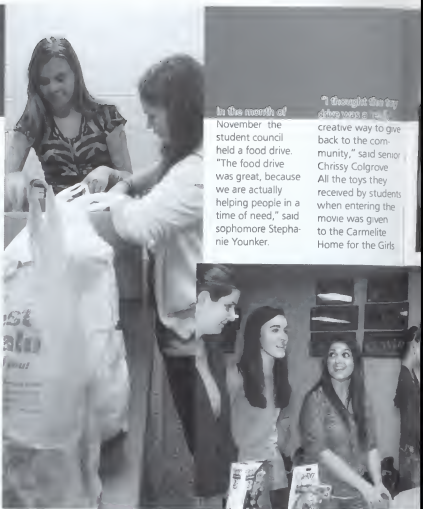
For the National Honor Society winter service project they had a "Toy Story 3" theme toy drive after school on December 10th. All

"Delivering the gifts was a really good experience. All of the children loved the gifts and afterwards we got to dance to the cha-cha slide with them." -Jillian Dixon, 12

the money they earned went to buying toys for First Steps, an organization that helps families with children in need of therapy. They received over

150 dollars. "The money we got was just enough to help the additional place [First Steps] we donated to," said Sheila Vaclavik, English. Seniors Anna

Schell, Michelle Sopetti, Jillian Dixon, and junior Sarah Guistoli had the honor of buying all of the toys for the sponsored family. "Buying the gifts was really rewarding, because we knew that we were making a big difference to a family during Christmas time," said Guistoli. This is one out of many service projects that NHS does throughout the year.



In the month of

November the student council held a food drive. "The food drive was great, because we are actually helping people in a time of need," said sophomore Stephanie Younker.

I thought the big thing was a

creative way to give back to the community," said senior Chrissy Colgrove. All the toys they received by students when entering the movie was given to the Carmelite Home for the Girls.



FCCLA went to the Highland Nursing Home to bring Christmas spirit and homemade cookies for all the members to enjoy. "It was really nice getting to know all the people one on one at the home," said junior Chloe Oliver.

SADD members junior Rachelie Fogarty and senior Brittany Sanders try to figure out what to do next with all the items brought in for the troops drive. "It was a heart warming experience that showed us what the soldiers miss out on daily," said Fogarty.



do you volunteer?

"I go to Gary and play sports with kids and help build houses with my church."

Nathan McNeill, 11



"Yes, I volunteer my whole summer and most of my first semester of school to football, since I am a football manager."

Taylor Louie, 10



"No, I do not volunteer anywhere, because I have no time."

Ashley Adams, 9



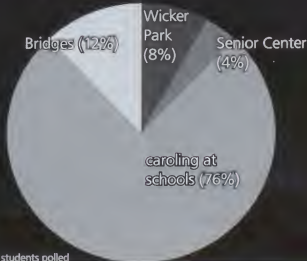
Senior Matthew Grahovac, volunteers his lunch time to sell pizza to raise enough money for DECA competitions. "It's worth missing a lunch hour to raise money for DECA and I buy the left over pizza," said Grahovac.

Staying after school to help others improve their grades, NHS sets up tutoring sessions. I enjoy tutoring, because it gives 1-on-1 help with others and I love helping other students," said junior Hanna Vrabely.



Griffith High School chorale

what was the most popular volunteer singing trip that the Griffith Chorale took?



25 chorale students polled

choralaires



row 1: Luis Martinez, Alex Rodriguez, Tim Orzelski, Nick Wilson, Nathan Reitz, Cameron Jung, Eddie Covarrubias
row 2: Kevin Stevens, Matt Consona, Dakota Broelmann, Isaiah Jimenez, James Zuniga, Joshua Kime, Ezekiel Del Val
row 3: Brandon Dyer, Christian Adams, Ramon Gonzales, Kyle Buikema, David Schell, Dion Seiluns, Logan Denny, Cornelius Jemison
row 4: Mark Plawewski, Rodney Lewis, Vid Dragutinovic, Jordan Grady, Cameron Kegebein, Jared Lowe, George Hudiczis

student council



juniors

row 1: (officers) Sarah Guistolis, Samantha McInerney, Joshua Kisfalusi, Christopher Melton, Hanna Vrabely
row 2: Ellison Cullen, Stacie Hansen, Mallory Baccino, Brooke Brinkley, Michelle Lesniewski, Shae Siokos
row 3: Rachel Garastik, Joel Kepchar, Ted Fitzgerald, Cole Felde, Emilee Trueblood, Austin Nnawuchi

art club



row 1: Kyle Jursic, Michelle Torres, RaShawn Gamble, Sara Torres, Alisondra Acevedo, Amy Zellers, Nicole Lear, Samantha Fuller, Samantha Christenson, Kikki Dunn, Joe Zuniga

thespians



row 1: Nicole Poole, Blaire Gearhart, Megan Gale, Jaime Keller, Jackie Johns, Kyle Ulm
row 2: Chrissy Colgrove, Clarence Young, Lindsey Sopetti, Alice Duhon, Melissa Thrall, Amy Belcher
row 3: Matt Seiluns, Michelle Sopetti, Jeremy Starks, Christopher Melton, David Stokes

bowling club



row 1: Elizabeth Kras, Jaime Keller, Da'Shauna Walker
row 2: Kanesha Jones, Courtney Koleski, Sydney Lidster, Kylee Ulm, Jillian Holtzer, Keith Lidster, Carlos Jimenez, Kyle Jursic, Nia Ross, Amy Zellers
row 3: Roberto Gamez, David Baldazo, Ryan Graan, Brian Beaupain, Jake Witt, Tony Hanlon, William Bogan, Anthony Ward

gls



row 1: Kathryn Baum, Chandler Adkins, Megan Garcia, Joshua Kime, Donald Hoover
row 2: Ted Fitzgerald, Nicole Poole, Kikki Dunn
row 3: Sarah Gates, Joe Zuniga



row 1: Megan McVicker, Melody Elkins, Cassie Christenson, Desiree Cadiz
row 2: (sponsor) Christine Chidichimo, Joshua Kisfalusi, Joel Kepchar, Ted Fitzgerald, Steven Malone

math bowl



row 1: Matthew Grahovac, Megan McVicker, Alyssa Niewiadomski, Raymond Alvarez

science bowl



row 1: Allison Nolan
row 2: Matthew Grahovac, (sponsor) Terri Ramos, Anna Schell, Jillian Holtzer, Mia DaSanto, Ross Myers

fine art bowl



row 1: Chandler Adkins, Blaire Gearhart, Deanna Johanson
row 2: Joel Kepchar, Zachary Spires, Ted Fitzgerald, Joshua Kisfalusi, (sponsor) Jim Pickett

social studies bowl



row 1: (sponsor) Terri Ramos, Keith Lidster, Cassie Christenson, Ellen Johnson, Alyssa Niewiadomski

english bowl

bowling club vs. bowling team

"Bowling club is a much more **relaxed** and **stress free** environment; it lets friends just mess around together. The bowling team is a lot more **serious** and we actually **compete** against other schools and it can get pretty heated. But **amazing people** are in both and bowling club is a great place to make *friends and memories*."

-Elizabeth Kras, 11



row 1: Chance's Walker, Rachelle Fogarty
row 2: Gabrielle Powell, Alyssa Lanting, Alyssa Niewiadomski, Emily Witvoet, Megan Gale, Blaire Gearhart
row 3: Kaitlyn Biancardi, Brittney Sanders, Steven Malone, Mia Dalsanto, Cody LeJeune



row 1: Megan McVicker, Raymond Alvarez, (sponsor) Scott MacFarland, Anna Schell, Melody Elkins
row 2: Samantha Aguilar, Alyssa Lanting, Alyssa Niewiadomski, Blaire Gearhart, Imani Ross
row 3: Daniel Kime, Joe Zuniga, Brienna Schramm, Joshua Kisfalusi
row 4: Keith Lidster, Matthew Grahovac, Ryan Fisch, Ted Fitzgerald, Joel Kepchar



row 1: Jody Cunningham, Erica Yost, Ashley Arndt, Lauren Bytnar, Emily Duhon, Kati LeBrun, Emily Solar, Breanna Sanchez, (sponsor) Eddie Covarrubias
row 2: Brooke Maglish, Jessie Mazzone, Melissa Vieyra, Amy Bubala, Sarah Koliboski, Chandler Adams, Alexis Singer, Sara Maywald, Shyira Moore
row 3: Maddie Kent, Devin Vestal, Jaci Vukosavljevic, Jenna Dellorf, Sydney Hilbrich, Guadalupe Gamino, Lauren Hernandez, Sarah Vrabely, Brandi Gerber, Kaitlyn Meyer
row 4: Alicia Page, Victoria Mares, Camisha Scheeringa, Emily Tuttle, Marissa Rios, Megan Garcia, Camille Manning, Destiny Moore, Sarah Gates
row 5: Monica Gonzales, Kyla Manning, Jordan Baltus, Dominique Anderson, Breanna Ally, Sara Joyce, Rosemary Bartodowski, Samantha Fuller, Da'Shauna Walker
row 6: Vickie Smith, Deanna Johanson, Kathryn Baum, Branne Basham, Tessa Trueblood, Lisette Roldan, Ashley Adams, Samantha Monko

deca (n.): A club consisting of 18 students

who have a passion for business and marketing. DECA goes to competitions to show their skills against other schools. It is run by Scott McFarland, business.



sadd (n.): Contrary to many student's beliefs, SADD is a club consisting of 13 students who try to demonstrate the moral standards of "students against destructive decisions." SADD sold ribbons for Drug Awareness Week during lunch. It is run by Officer Peter Ghrist.



booster club (n.): A club that promotes Panther pride and decorates lockers for different sports during their seasons. It is run by Kelli Bridges, foreign language.



row 1 (officers) Lisa Blaski, Nia Ross, Emily Witvoet, Amber Atkins, Julian Dixon, (sponsor) Lynn Roades
row 2: Katie Blair, Bri-Ann Andriessen, Chance's Walker, Jeanette Salazar, Kristyn Cannon, Sara Torres, Marisa Mureiko, Maegen Glass
row 3: Shannon Kunka, Alyssa Melchor, Rachelle Fogarty, Sarah Kuna, K White, Stacy Weber, Melissa Martinez, Rachel Mierzwa, Ailey Clark
row 4: Morgan Dillon, Hanna Vrabely, Chrissy Colgrove, Selena Zamudio, Ashley Pinkham, Julia Saberniak, Vicki Soliva, Sarah Guistoisi
row 5: Katelyn Roberts, Cody LeJeune, Kalissa Greenlaw, Brittney Sanders, Brittnei McLemore, Mia Dalsanto, Kelsie Lunsford

spell bowl



row 1: Allison Nolan
row 2: Megan McVicker, Raymond Alvarez, Alyssa Niewiadomski, Cassie Christenson
row 3: Keith Lidster, Ted Fitzgerald, Matthew Grahovac

booster club



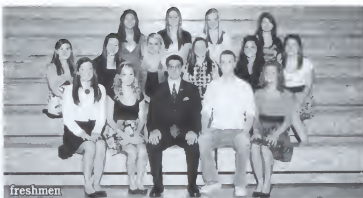
row 1 (officers) Jenny Lanfear, Kelly Jones, Jillian Dixon, Ellison Cullen
row 2: Marisa Rios, Cassandra Rardin, Samantha Fuller, Tiffany McDaniel, Kristen Pospychala, Ciarra Kroslack, Selena Zamudio, Jordan Baltus, Na Ross, Sarah Guistoli
row 3: Jesus Adalpe, Fernanda Bugarin, Emilee Trueblood, Chrissy Colgrove, Amy Belcher, Sara Joyce, Chloe Norton, Hanna Vrabely, Mallory Baccino, Brooke Brinkley, Brianna Schramm
row 4: Brett Brinkley, Stefanie Soy, Katelyn Roberts, Emily Witvoet, Deanna Johanson, Courtney Koleski, Brittany Maglish, Crystal VanWhite, Brittini McLemore, Sara Fisch
row 5: Da'Shauna Walker, Haley Marshall, Taylor Surowiec, Katie Bridges, Jared Lowe, Tessa Trueblood, Brooke Trueblood, Ashley Adams, Bobbi Davis

booster club



row 1 (officers) Jenny Lanfear, Kelly Jones, Jillian Dixon, Ellison Cullen
row 2: Angela Genovese, Ashley Arndt, Ailey Clark, Manon Carter, Taylor Louie, Mandi Clark
row 3: Erica Yost, Caylee Adams, Alexis Singer, Bri-ann Andriessen, Kyra Scheeringa, Rebecca Basaleh, Brittany Takacs, Melissa Martinez, Alysa Melsch
row 4: Jody Cunningham, Nelisa Caraballo, Sarah Clark, Kylee Ulm, Courtney Muller, Melissa Vieyra, Amanda Boyer, Rachel Mierzwa, Quinette Craig-Garland, Lisa Blaski
row 5: Maddie Kent, Stephanie Yunker, Julie Duvnjak, Leslie Martinez, Lisa Calvillo, Janelle Owczarzak, Vicki Solvais

student council



freshmen

row 1: (officers) Hanna Vrabely, Samantha McInerney, Joshua Kisfalus, Christopher Melton, Sarah Guistoli
row 2: Emily Solar, Sarah Vrabely, Sydney Hilbrich, Megan Garcia, Rebecca Perez, Amy Bubala
row 3: Marisa Rios, Tessa Trueblood, Sara Joyce, Lisa Calvillo

booster club



row 1 (officers) Jenny Lanfear, Kelly Jones, Jillian Dixon, Ellison Cullen
row 2: Andrea Leon, Dana Lesniewski, Emily Solar, Kyla Eatman, Chance's Walker, Chloe Oliver, Brooke Maglish
row 3: Chandler Adkins, Miryrea Cisneros, Jeanette Salazar, Caitlin Brown, Aisha Darrough, Devin Vestal, Rosemary Bartochowski, Brandi Gerber, Sarah Vrabely, Lauren Hernandez, Danielle Cimmino
row 4: Megan Lesniewski, Michelle Lesniewski, Sarah Gates, Kyla Manning, Blaire Gearhart, Stacy Weber, Alyssa Melchor, Alana Vega, Destiny Moore, Kaitlyn Meyer
row 5: Brooke Pospychala, Andrea Franklin, Jaci Vuckovich, Cornelius Jemson, Andrew London, Sydney Hilbrich, Rebecca Perez, Morgan Dillon, Chonetta Cotton

concert choir I



row 1: Lisa Blaski, Destiny Barajas, Abby Muffet, Abbey Little, Karis White, Deziree Walker, Maegan Glass, Manon Carter, (sponsor) Edie Covarrubias
row 2: Ciarra Kroslack, Brooke Pospychala, Stefanie Soy, Brittany Maglish, Emily Kuzmanoff, Sarah Galambos, Jesse Yarnelle
row 3: Jake Koselki, Brett Brinkley, Alex Diaz, Sean Downs, Joey Rivera, Andy Duhon
row 4: Robert Cheek, Ryan Camp, Austin Brown, Thomas Kudyba, Tyler Pena

student council



sophomores

row 1: (officers) Sarah Guistolisi, Hanna Vrabely, Joshua Kisfalusi, Christopher Melton, Samantha McInerney
row 2: Stefanie Soy, Jeanette Salazar, Ailey Clark, Taylor Louie
row 3: Stephanie Younker, Miryea Cisneros, Blaire Gearhart, Cindy McInerney, Julie Duvnjak, Brooke Pospychala

22 students in band



38 students in fccla

25 seniors in class council



international club



row 1: Megan McVicker, Katie Blair, Chandler Adkins, Amanda Boyer, Jackie Johns, Kylee Uim, Brianne Andresen, Alexys Corona, Marsa Mureko, Lorraine Hageman
row 2: Destiny Barajas, Michelle Urena, Taylor Louie, Jeanette Salazar, Julie Duvnjak, Sarah Gates, Alyssa Melchor, Cindy McInerney, Miryea Cisneros, Vanessa Blankenship, Ailey Clark, Janessa Tamez
row 3: Stacie Hansen, Cassie Shanks, Christy Amur, Lindsay Pierce, Nia Ross, Brooke Pospychala, Jawhara Haddad, Jazzmine Shaw, Cassie Christenson, Stephanie Younker, Melissa Martinez
row 4: Rachel Mierzwia, Carra Kioslask, Alyssa Niewiadomski, Rachel Garastik, Megan Gale, Emily Witvoet, Alice Duhan, Katelyn Roberts, Blaire Gearhart, Andy Duhan, Chrissy Colgrove, Jillian Dixon
row 5: Stacy Weber, Kelly Lannin, Karley Spiggs, Jaime Keller, Mia DaSilva, Ray Alvarez, Art Garcia, Jamie Rex, Chloe Norton, Deanna Johanson, Khristian Ayala

chorale



row 1: Kyra Scheeringa, Courtney Massa, Alyssa Lanting, Kylee Uim, Eddie Covarrubias
row 2: Kelly Jones, Amy Zellers, Jasmine Mata, Amanda Boyer, Jeff Tinich, Nicole Poole
row 3: Megan Gale, Amy Belcher, Clarence Young, Melissa Thrall, Lindsey Sopetti, Cody Modglin, Chrissy Colgrove
row 4: Michelle Sopetti, Taylor Surowiec, Christopher Plucinski, Kyle Jursic, Art Garcia, Casey McDaniel
row 5: Brian Beaupain, Christopher Melton, Calvin Bonewits, David Baldazo, Dontrell Kelly

color guard



row 1: Imani Ross, Alyssa Lanting,
row 2: Jaime Drummond, Amanda Falcon, Brittini McLemore, Samantha Aguilar
row 3: Tiffany Strong, Sarah Hurdish, Clarissa Hardy

band



row 1: Becky Schnoor, Jackie Johns, Chelsea Scofield, Nia Ross, Shannon Kunka, Sarah Velasquez, Megan McVicker, Nick Johnson
row 2: Amanda Falcon, Clarissa Hardy, Cassie Christenson, Ellen Johnson, Nicole Hamill, Alyssa Lanting, Nick Brummet
row 3: Alyssa Niewiadomski, Alexander Mendoza, Brian Stinnett, Sarah Hurdish, Michael Kent, Kelsie Lunsford, Katie Cahill

class council



row 1: Sarah Vrabely, Lauren Hernandez, Shelby Bannon, Yadi Castellanos, Sydney Hilbrich, Amy Bubala
row 2: Alexys Corona, Matt Csonka, Joshua Kime, Karley Spriggs, Sara Joyce, Da'Shauna Walker
row 3: Bobbi Davis, Tessa Trueblood, Deanna Johanson

student council



row 1: (officers) Samantha McInerney, Sarah Guistoli, Joshua Kisalusi, Christopher Melton, Hanna Vrabely
row 2: Jillian Dixon, Mia Campbell, Alyssa Lanting, Megan Gale, Mandi Clark
row 3: Chrissy Colgrove, Keith Lidster, Sarah Hurdish, Laura Hurdish, Brooke Trueblood

reflector staff



row 1: Samantha McInerney, Kristi Buxton, (editor) Jillian Dixon, Sarah Guistoli, Nicole Hamill, Dylan Etheridge
row 2: Stephanie Brandner, Ellison Cullen, Stacy Weber, Caylee Adams, Alyssa Melchor, Chelsea Scofield, (advisor) Kristina Collard
row 3: Brittany Maglish, Robert Stevens, Jordan Long

class council



row 1: (officers) Kristi Buxton, Brooke Trueblood, Art Garcia, Kristen Pospychala
row 2: Russ Radtke, Kelly Jones, Samantha McInerney, Mia Campbell, Alyssa Lanting, Jillian Dixon, Nicole Poole
row 3: Mandi Clark, Taylor Reitz, Lindsey Sopetti, Laura Hurdish, Samantha Marker, Joshua Kisalusi, Chrissy Colgrove, Kylee Ullm
row 4: Megan Gale, Sarah Hurdish, Chris Melton, Jonathan Acevedo, David Baldazo, Michelle Sopetti, Anna Schell

concert choir III



row 1: Alycia Metsch, Kalissa Greenlaw, Lesley Pietsch, Hanna Vrabely, Ashley Noojin, Catalina Villalpando, Kyla Eatman, Eddie Covarrubias
row 2: Rachel Solar, Melinda Burk, Brooke Brinkley, Alice Duhan, Brittany Anderson, Hannah Scheeringa, Jenny Lanfear, Tiffany Burbridge, Sarah Clark
row 3: Kelsey Taylor, Olivia Gates, George Walker, Joe Vacklavik, Austin Foster, Joel Hurdish, Kelsey Bonewits, Sarah Guistoli
row 4: Abby Yarnelle, Robert Szabo

students in concert choir II

54

students in chorale

28

students in choralettes

53

students in choralaires

28

students in concert choir I

53

total:

216

concert choir II



row 1: Eddie Covarrubias, Chloe Oliver, Shi Fassoth, Hope Ryan, Taylor Stefan, Chance's Walker
row 2: Stacie Hansen, Stephanie Brandner, Emilee Trueblood, Katelyn Roberts, Kalie Lastagarkov, Mallory Baccino, Rachel Garastik
row 3: Amelia Morales, Justin Turner, Carlos Jimenez, Mark Rex, Steven Malone, Quincy Moore, Miguel Valtierra, Jordan Zarndt
row 4: Garrett Litke, Nicholas Kudyba, Maciek Szczepkowski, Robbie Megquier, Jimmy Gaydos

class council



juniors

row 1: (officers) Stacie Hansen, Amy Russell, Hanna Vrabely, Sarah Guistolsi
row 2: Ellison Cullen, Shae Siokos, Katalina Villalpando, Rachel Garastik, Stephanie Brandner, Megan Lesniewski, Sarah Clark
row 3: Aisha Darrough, Mallory Baccino, Emilee Trueblood, Kalissa Greenlaw, Brooke Brinkley, Kyla Eatman, Agnes O'Brien
row 4: Vicki Solivais, Amanda Bakko, Gianni Rivera, Julie Witt, Greg Rothchild, Jenny Lanfear, Emily Witvoet, Michelle Lesniewski
row 5: Ryan Zubrick, Joe Vacklavik, Ted Fitzgerald, Cole Felde, Joel Kepchar

nhs



juniors

row 1: (officers) Anna Schell, Michelle Sopetti, Jeremy Starks, Jillian Duxon
row 2: Amy Russell, Stacie Hansen, Stephanie Brandner, Megan Tuttle, Sarah Guistolsi
row 3: Sarah Clark, Rachel Garastik, Alyssa Niewiadomski, Kelly Lannin, Brooke Brinkley, Elizabeth Kras, Vicki Solivais, Michelle Lesniewski
row 4: Hanna Vrabely, Mallory Baccino, Joel Kepchar, Ted Fitzgerald, Joe Vacklavik, Greg Rothchild, Alice Duhon

class council



sophomores

row 1: (officers) Ailey Clark, Manon Carter, Jordan Long, Brittany Maglish
row 2: Caylee Adams, Taylor Louie, Melissa Martinez, Nia Ross, Jackie Johns
row 3: Stacy Weber, Miryeh Cisneros, Janelle Owczarzak, Cindy McInerney, Stephanie Younker, Julie Duvnjak, Abbey Little, Jeanette Salazar
row 4: Blaire Gearhart, Jesus Aldape, Stefanie Soy, Brooke Pospychala, Katie Bridges, Samantha Adams, Andy Duhon, Christy Anzur



winter projects

- a total of **41** members signed up for tutoring that was held throughout the year
- **29** members helped out at the Toy Story 3 toy drive on December 10th
- **5** people worked at the santa breakfast on December 4th

national honor society

(n.) one of the oldest and largest recognition programs for high school students. This club was founded in 1921 by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. There are 46 members in this club that all follow the 4 facets of NHS: scholarship, service, leadership, and character.

spring projects

- **12** members worked at the annual spaghetti dinner on February 22nd
- **30** members volunteered to help out at the blood drive on February 23rd
- **10** members helped with the annual top ten dinner on April 17th



nhs



seniors

row 1: (officers) Anna Schell, Michelle Sopetti, Jeremy Starks, Jillian Duxon
row 2: Kylee Ulm, Brian Orzechowicz, Cassie Christenson, Alyssa Lanting, Mia Campbell, Megan McVicker, Samantha McInerney
row 3: Kristen Pospychala, Chrissy Colgrove, Joshua Kisfalusi, Raymond Alvarez, Lindsey Sopetti, Jack Blount
row 4: Megan Gale, Matthew Grahovac, Samantha Marker, Sarah Hurdish, Laura Hurdish, Courtney Koleski, Katie Cahill

meet the staff...



• loves to do the games and horoscopes pages
-Cali Lemus, 11 (reporter)



• spends all her time working on the yearbook during the edge class
-Jillian Dixon, 12 (reporter)



• makes sure the publication runs smoothly and the pages look awesome
-Chrissy Colgrove, 12 (editor)

• loves to design the sports pages and listen to music
-Rachel Mierzwa, 12 (reporter)



row 1: Allison Nolan, Alyssa Niewiadomski, Ryan Zubrick, (sponsor) Krystal Bandy, Megan McVicker, Cassie Christenson, Ellen Johnson
row 2: Melissa Thrall, Raymond Alvarez, Ryan Fisch, Stephanie Baker, Mia DaSanto

science olympiad



row 1: Elizabeth Biancardi, Jeremy Starks, Jillian Dixon

quill and scroll



row 1: Cali Lemus, Jillian Dixon, (editor) Chrissy Colgrove, Rachel Mierzwa

the edge staff



row 1: (editor) Jeremy Starks, (adviser) Kristina Collard
row 2: Nicole Poole, Manon Carter, Elizabeth Biancardi, Ailey Clark, Marris Mihalick
row 3: Melissa Martinez, Selena Zamudio, Jeff Tinich, Charles Roberson, Clarra Kroslock, Julia Saberniak
row 4: Ryan Zubrick, Laura Hurdish, Joe Zuniga

panther press staff



row 1: Eddie Covarrubias, Jackie Martinez, Tiffany McDaniel, Miryca Cisneros, Mercedes Hermosillo, Allison Nolan
row 2: Julie Duvnjak, Blaire Gearhart, Sydney Lidster, Emily Mitcheltree, Stephanie Younker
row 3: Preston Nelson, Matt Seiluns, Joseph Golub, Andrew Zarndt, Jacob Dennison, Jesse Smith
row 4: Brandon Gale, Angel James, Ben Parish, Mathew Kitzmiller, Anthony Carter

concert choir I

com.pet.ing

(v): 1. Students who strive to defeat opposing schools in a contest or competition. Here at Griffith High School, 21 unified teams with members from various backgrounds compete in fall, winter, and spring events to win.



beck kranke



lamine alvarez



varsity football



varsity volleyball



While some students were born to act, sing, or perform, other students were born to win. Spending infinite hours at practices and games, social lives diminished for many students who tried to balance both school and team sports. Many students here at GHS were even multi-sport athletes, and gave it their all for every practice, game, and competition. Between the months of August and June there were approximately 448 sporting events that took place. All together, there were twenty-one sports, including cheerleading and pantherettes.

For some sports, the members started conditioning when the previous school year ended. For the football team, workout sessions started in June in the morning or at night. The members had to complete 22 of these workout sessions in order to play on varsity. Just before the season started, a few members of the football team got kicked off due to a hazing incident. Through all the controversy with the hazing escapade though, the football team managed to pull together as a team and won their first Northwest Crossroads Conference Championship.

No matter what the sport is, from football to dance to swimming, it took great determination and dedication to spend the long, hot days of summer at practice or conditioning. The hardest months of the year for many sports are June through August, because most coaches utilized this time to get their players into great physical shape before the competitive season began.

The soccer team conditioned Monday through Friday from nine to eleven thirty during the summer. At

the end of July, the team had rigorous try-outs which decided their fate for the rest of the season.

However, not all teams go all year round. The cheerleaders and pantherettes practice eleven months out of the year. The pantherette season started in May 2010 and ended in March 2011. The girls had to practice three times a week with ankle weights all summer. Also, both of these spirit teams had 'til girls camp where they had to teach children dance and cheer techniques.

During the swimming season, the boys and girls had morning practice, had to sit through school all day, went back to practice. The members started to sweat chlorine and everyone's hair started to lighten from being in the pool so often.

Turnabout was held on the same day as many sporting events, which students were not happy with. Girls swimming conference, a wrestling meet, and the pantherette's first competition ended just hours before the dance started. Although it didn't affect the guys as much, the girls had to hurry to get to their hair and nail appointments.

This year, the volleyball team decided to give back to the community. Each member got pledges for how many digs they completed. Shirts were sold in honor of this event that said "dig pink". All together they raised over one thousand dollars to give to the Cancer Foundation. Aside from that, all the members were ecstatic to play in pink uniforms.

The spring athletes encountered numerous games that had to be canceled or postponed, if it was a conference game, due to the rainy weather. Track, tennis, softball, and baseball had to cancel games due to the unseasonably cold weather, also.

Many athletes would have agreed that at some point throughout the season, between sharing the frustrations of practices, the sweat of conditioning, the disappointment of losses, and the triumph of winning, each team became a family. Rivalries between team members usually smoothed out by the end of the season, and being with your team became a place of comfort.

No matter what sport students played, they were able to define themselves in a whole new light. Whether they played an individual sport like golf, or a team sport like baseball every student spent countless hours determined to win.



Concentrating on his pitch, junior Jeremy Camp tries to strike out as many people as he can. On March 30, they played at Calumet. "This year I want to win sectionals. At Calumet, I was pitching and it was very nerve-wracking because the pressure was all on me. If I didn't do well, then it would have affected the whole team. We won by a lot though so it was a good game," said Camp.

Kee • ping it close

1. 11 guys each from two teams that try to win the game by scoring touchdowns for six points.

2. A team that spends countless hours at practice, games, and rituals, sharing blood, tears, and sweat. By the end of the season, the boys are more like brothers than teammates.



During Griffith's Friday night game on September 10, the offensive line tackles the Lowell Red Devils. "I was going to annihilate Lowell's linebacker," said sophomore Brett Brinkley.

Every Friday night when the stadium lights go on either on the road, or in the boneyard, the Griffith Panthers football team gets ready to play. All sports have their own ritual to prepare themselves for a game, as well as each individual. For some football players there perspective is to study there scouting reports or listen to music. "I listen to music to get pumped up before a game," said senior Tyrell Tinnin.

Practicing everyday for approximately 3-4 hours paid off for Griffith's football players; sometimes practicing twice a day to work on things that needed to be improved. Going through the season the Griffith Panthers did a magnificent job ending the season by winning the Northwest Crossroads Conference. This conference is relatively new, starting in 2005. Griffith came together as a team during the Northwest Crossroads Conference, and won for the first time ever. "Being apart of the team that won the NCC and knowing we worked hard for it was the greatest feeling of my life," said sophomore Ben Parish.

Focusing in on the conference game,

the Griffith Panthers came playing to win. They succeeded in their goal by scoring a touchdown in double overtime against Andrean. It was a close game, but Griffith came out with a



Troy Vennella '11

winning record of 5-4. "I think for the overall season we did a good job, and we really deserved it," said junior Josh Bodnar. With the returning players continuing to work in the off season, hopefully the Panthers will come out on top again next year.

victory of 20-19. Griffith's win sent a rush through everyone. All the joy and excitement led the cheering section to rush onto the field after the win.

Although the Griffith Panthers lost in the first round of sectionals, they ended with a

Supporting his teammates on the field, junior Tyler Yost tries to assist his team to a victory. "I was making sure [Chris] Melton had his guy blocked so we could score," said Yost.





During a competitive game against Lowell, senior Jack Blount contributes to a victory for the Panthers. "I was going the extra yard to give my boy [Troy] Yarnelle a hole," said Blount.

Fighting for victory, the Griffith Panthers work hard to earn a win against Lowell. "It was a close game up until the end, but the better team came up on top," said senior Gilbert Eatman.



Ready to defend his quarterback, senior Brandon Soy plays along side other determined football players. "We came out really prepared. We knew we were going to win because of how hard we worked," said Soy.



In order to recover the ball, sophomore Austin Brown drives into the mess to help his team. "Our game against Lowell was really intense and important; and a factor in our conference championship," said Brown.



varsity football (row 1) Nathan Reitz, Nicholas Wilson, Dakota Broelmann, Tyrell Tinnin, Andrew Figueroa, Steven Marquez, Brett Brinkley, Cameron Walker, Connor McCabe
(row 2) Brandon Brummer, Chance Edwards, Todd Fenell, Kyle Buikema, Cory Dunagan, Dion Seilums, Luke Smith, Logan Denny, Michael Delpino, Tyrus Jenkins, Aaron Metz
(row 3) Taylor Louie, Jim Pickett, James Ford, Dan Santori, Matt Gonzalez, Alexander Brandon, Brian Orkus, Russ Radtke, Ted White, Christian Laird, Josh Todd, Tyler Radtke, Bo Radtke
(row 4) Josh Bodnar, Tristin Olsen, Terrence Tompkins, Joey Rivera, Chris Benko, Carlton Valliant, Tyler Yost, Ryan Bluhm, Tyler Pena, Preston Nelson, Deshon Roberson, Ryan Dunlap, Tyler Palanca
(row 5) Emily Kuzmanoff, Jack Blount, Gilbert Eatman, Logan Bock, Austin Brown, Robert Szabo, Jevon Bell, Zach Stickley, Chris Melton, Nathan McNeill, Troy Yarnelle, Tyler Lipski, Gabe Cherry, Jordan Zarndt
(row 6) Thomas Tompkins, Brandon White, Zach Grin, Maciek Szczepkowski, Calvin Bonewits, Derek Revis, Jonathan Acevedo, Brandon Soy, Cameron Kegebein, Ben Parish, Ross Smith



freshmen football (row 1) Tyrus Jenkins, Nathan Reitz, Camoren Walker, Nick Wilson, Conner McCabe, Dakota Broelmann
(row 2) James Ford, Chance Edwards, Todd Fenell, Luke Smith, Michael Delpino, Erin Metz, Dan Santori
(row 3) Jim Pickett, Thomas Tompkins, Logan Denny, Deshon Roberson, Ryan Dunlap, Tristin Olsen, Kyle Buikema, Dion Seilums
(row 4) Terrence Tompkins, Tyler Lipski, Brandon White, Cameron Kegebein, Zach Stickley, Ross Smith, Tyler Palanca

After a play, senior Chris Melton took time to talk to juniors Nathan McNeill and Maciek Szczepkowski. "I was talking to Seattle and Maciek about the previous play, and telling them to do there job on the next play," said Melton.

varsity football

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| Morton | 28-27 |
| Valparaiso | 34-21 |
| Hobart | 35-10 |
| Lowell | 19-16 |
| KV | 43-0 |
| Munster | 19-14 |
| Highland | 25-17 |
| Andean | 20-19 |
| Hobart (sectionals) | 35-14 |

record: 5-4
NCC: 5-1

varsity volleyball

| | |
|-------------------|-----|
| Merrillville | 3-1 |
| East Chicago | 3-0 |
| Whiting | 3-1 |
| Hammond High | 3-0 |
| Munster | 3-0 |
| Andean | 3-0 |
| Hobart | 3-0 |
| Merrillville | 2-1 |
| Winamac | 2-0 |
| Calumet Christian | 2-1 |
| Morton | 2-0 |
| Morton | 3-0 |
| Highland | 3-1 |
| KV | 3-1 |
| Lowell | 3-0 |
| Nath Newton | 2-0 |
| Calumet | 2-0 |
| Gavit | 2-0 |
| Whiting | 2-0 |
| Munster | 3-0 |
| Andean | 3-0 |
| Gavit | 3-0 |
| Hobart | 3-1 |
| Calumet | 3-2 |
| Highland | 3-2 |
| KV | 3-1 |
| Lowell | 3-0 |
| Knox (sectionals) | 3-0 |
| record: 14-14 | |
| NCC: 2-4 | |



varsity volleyball (row 1) Stacie Hansen, Samantha Marker, Megan Tuttle, Michelle Lesniewski
(row 2) Emily Tuttle, Regina Hope, Brittany Sanders, Michelle Sopetti, Cathy Dilbeck, Kelsey Bonewits, Lindsay Sopetti, Lisette Roldan, Dana Jeffries



ju volleyball (row 1) Sarah Galambos, Ally Krajnak, Jen Klapak, Taylor Backe, Ciarra Kroslock
(row 2) Manon Carter, Rachelle Fogarty, Melissa Miller, Catena Root, Melissa Martinez

"Communication is good to have while playing a sport. Senior Regina Hope was asking freshman Lisette Roldan what kind of set she wanted to do. "Our team has really good chemistry on and off the court," said Roldan.

Coming together during a time out is a way the team can come together and talk about what happened so far in the game. "During every time out, we come together to fix our mistakes and give encouragement to our teammates," said junior Stacie Hansen.



freshman volleyball (row 1) Jasmine Alvarez, Jordan Baltus, Abbi Kik, Cassi Root, Victoria Mares
(row 2) Faith York, Jenna DeRolf, Jessie Mazzone, Erica Yost

Going up for the spike, sophomore Ciarra Kroslock ended up hitting it over. "I got a kill and tied us alive in a 23/24 game versus Andean. Volleyball is such an exhilarating sport and knowing that you have to rely on your teammates takes a lot of trust," said Kroslock.



Breaking through the opposing teams block, senior Samantha Marker spikes the ball. "I have been on varsity for four years and spiking is my favorite part of the game. It is a very important part of the game because that is one of the main ways to win," said Marker.

vol-ley-ball (n.)
1. It's a game in which the object is to keep the ball in motion between both sides of the net, without the ball hitting the ground with only up to three hits per side.

2. There are three volleyball teams: varsity, junior varsity, and freshman. There are 28 players this year and they have team bonding on and off the court.



Warming up before a game helps the team to prepare and get pumped for the game. Junior Kelsey Bonewits was practicing her spikes. "Hitting before the game helps prepare us for game situations," said Bonewits.



Pre·par·ing for a set

The volleyball season was challenging, but the girls still tried their hardest and did their best. Team bonding played a huge role in the success of all the teams. Freshman Faith York's house and Jasmine Alvarez's house was the main place for the freshman team's bonding. At York's house, the girls spent three hours together and got to know their teammates much better than they did before. They watched movies and had an awesome time. Then at Alvarez's house, they had a sleep over. "It was a great way to get closer as a team and it helped us out on the court," said freshman Victoria Mares. The junior varsity team did not have as much team bonding as the other two teams,



but they had one spaghetti dinner with the varsity team. "Because our team had many cliques, we spent most of our time in those groups, but in general we got along as a team," said sophomore Melissa Martinez.

The varsity girls way of bonding was pasta night once a week at junior Kelsey Bonewits house. They also had a sleep over at Bonewits house the night before

sectionals. "Team bonding brought us together, and we were able to see one another's personality outside of the court," said senior Michelle Sopetti. Team bonding existed on and off the court, which helped them play better as a team, and it showed.

This year the volleyball girls donated to The Cancer Foundation. The girls sold shirts that said "Dig Pink" on them. They also decorated the game with pink balloons and pink tape on the ground. The girls were excited to play in pink uniforms, but they were competitive against Highland. The varsity team got pledges for every dig. That night, the Griffith players received money that was donated. They received over 1,000 dollars. "I had a great time playing in the Dig Pink game because it went to a meaningful cause and I liked playing in the pink uniforms," said Martinez.

"The varsity team's season this year was decent, it did not go as they planned but at least it was not horrible," said senior Regina Hope. Bonewits broke two records: most kills in a game and most kills in a career. Hope also broke a school record, which was most aces in a career.



Michelle Villag, 11



Playing a game against Andean, freshman Abbi Kik goes for a block and gets a point. "It takes one person to make a point, but it takes the whole team to play the game," said Kik.

Once a part but now one

soccer (n.)

1. A game played by two teams of 11 players with a round ball that can not be touched except by the feet.

The object is to kick the ball into the opponents goal.

2. A set of boys that finally come together in the end to reach one goal.



Some people are made to be a team at the beginning of the season, but unfortunately that wasn't the case for this years boys' varsity soccer team. For them, it was like a whole new team or set of boys that almost needed to learn the rules, tips, and techniques of this game. Last year, they lost 14 seniors and had to start over replacing their spots which made people look at them differently. With almost a whole new team, they were doubted on their ability to win certain games or just games in general.

One of those games was against their well-known rivalry, Andean. "We went into the game with almost no one supporting us and with 99% doubters," said sophomore Jordan Gonzalez. "Everyone did not think we could beat a well rounded team like them and we would come out on the short end," said Gonzalez.

In the end, freshman George Hudicizius scored the winning goal to make the final score 2-1 and more then likely adding some hope to the team. This

game contributed to the whole team adding more heart into every situation and game they encountered. If you had to ask the varsity players what they thought was their biggest problem of the season it would be the

fact that they were all not together but the fact that they were all separate people. One of the junior varsity players, sophomore Jesus Aldape, had the same thought every game. "The team needed to actually become a team and most of them fought with each other or played for themselves, which showed and also caused them to have the record they did," said Aldape. At the end of the season, the team finally woke up

Ryan Avalos, 11

according to most of the varsity players and it did have an affect in their overall game. "We all woke up and realized that we couldn't make our goal of winning any games since we were such a young team. With that, we had to step up our game to actually become a team instead of different people," said junior Joe Vaclavik.



During the Merrillville sectional game, junior Justin Turner, throws the ball to his teammate. "I was trying to put my team in a scoring position by advancing the ball down the field and making up for our lost goal," said Turner.

While playing in the game against Wheeler, sophomore Jordan Gonzalez gets ready to steal the ball from his opponent. "All I did was think to myself, if you have your mind set on your goal, you will be successful at the end," said Gonzalez.





On August 25, senior Joshua Kisfalusi was taking a goal kick to start playing the game in Hobart. "All I wanted to do was to make sure I made a decent kick to put my team in a winning position from the beginning," said Kisfalusi.



After telling the other teammates what to do, junior Nicholas Kudyba was taking a free kick during the second half of the senior night game at Griffith. "This year I played stopper instead of goal keeper, giving me a higher amount of love for the game of soccer," said Kudyba.

Intense in his game, senior Steven Gronkiewicz was trying to beat his opponent to the ball on September 12. The game was home versus Munster. "Even though our team was down 3-0, I tried my best to move the team along with every play," said Gronkiewicz.



varsity soccer (row 1) Aaron Garza, Steven Gronkiewicz, Justin Turner, Joshua Kisfalusi, David Schell, Jordan Gonzalez, Carlos Tellez
(row 2) Andrew Rothchild, Ryan Avalos, Steven Sharp, Thomas Kudyba, Garrett Walter, Joe Vackavik
(row 3) Karl Koch, George Hudiczius, Ryan Fisch, Ron Knestrict, Zachary Bozinovich, Nicholas Kudyba, Wally Kudyba



jv soccer (row 1) Jordan Avalos, Nick Long, Jesus Aldape, Michael Alvarez, Aaron Garza
(row 2) Khristian Ayala, Isaiah Jimenez, Cody Tucker, Al Hassan, Zane Fassoth, Carlos Tellez
(row 3) Karl Koch, Andrew Rothchild, Michael Cocco, George Hudiczius, Mark Plawewski, David Schell, Wally Kudyba

boys varsity soccer

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Highland | 5-0 |
| Morton | 6-0 |
| Hobart | 4-0 |
| Andrean | 2-1 |
| Mooresville | 3-2 |
| Northview | 8-0 |
| Munster | 2-0 |
| LaPorte | 3-1 |
| Michigan City | 5-1 |
| KV | 2-1 |
| Portage | 3-0 |
| Bishop Noll | 2-1 |
| Lowell | 1-0 |
| Clark | 1-0 |
| Gavit | 5-0 |
| Wheeler | 1-0 |
| Merrillville (sectionals) | 2-0 |

record: 7-10

NCC: 3-3



varsity soccer (row 1) Taylor Steffan, Yadi Castellanos, Amy Russell, Sarah Hurdish, Alejandra Tellez, Caitlin Brown, Samantha McInerney
(row 2) Cristina Aldape, Megan Wilbert, Christy Anzur, Krystal Mendoza, Anna Schell, Breanna Ally, Cindy McInerney
(row 3) Glenn Maglish, Donald Curtis, Kristen Pospychala, Katelyn Barta, Brianna Bias, Brittany Maglish, Brooke Pospychala, Ricardo Gonzalez, Laura Hurdish



juv soccer (row 1) Abigail Grabos, Jackie Chavez, Amy Bubala, Shi Fassoth, Emily Duhon, Mandi Clark
(row 2) Lauren Hernandez, Stephanie DiSanto, Ellen Johnson, Caitlin Christenson, Julie Duvnjak, Stephanie Younker, Janelle Owczarzak
(row 3) Glenn Maglish, Donald Curtis, Kalie Lastagarkov, Jesse Yarnelle, Brianne Basham, Ashley Noojin, Ashley Brown, Ricardo Gonzalez, Laura Hurdish



During a physical game against Merrillville, the goal keeper and captain, senior Sarah Hurdish, blocks a shot from going into the goal to ensure a win for her team. "Merrillville was a tougher team than we expected, but I'm just glad we came out with a win," said Hurdish.

girls varsity soccer

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Hobart | 5-2 |
| Bishop Noll | 8-1 |
| Andrean | 2-0 |
| Crown Point | 4-1 |
| Munster | 2-0 |
| Lake Central | 3-3 |
| Merrillville | 1-0 |
| KV | 4-2 |
| Lowell | 6-0 |
| Gavit | 9-0 |
| Morton | 9-0 |
| Hebron | 8-1 |
| Chesterton | 6-1 |
| Highland | 4-2 |
| Andrean (sectionals) | 3-0 |
| Crown Point (sectionals) | 4-1 |

record: 9-6-1
NCC: 3-3



After a Crown Point player was injured, the Lady Panthers group together during their sectional game. "It was my first game starting, and after losing to Crown Point earlier in the season, we were all pumped up, since we had a chance to beat them," said sophomore Brooke Pospychala.

Shielding the ball from a Morton player, junior Cristina Aldape contributes to her team's victory. "Even though we won the game by a lot, it was still a very aggressive game," said Aldape.



Play·ing up to ex·pec·tat·ions

soc·cer (n.)
1. A game played between two teams of 11 players, which are both trying to score a goal in the opponent's nets within the two 40 minute time periods.
2. Not only a team, but a family that goes through everything together, win or lose.



Losing seniors. It's inevitable, and something all sports teams have to go through, as well as rebuilding the teams to make up for all the losses. This year the girls soccer team lost a total of nine seniors, eight of which were starters.

"There was pressure on the seniors this year to be good leaders since all the seniors that graduated really impacted our team with their leadership last year," said senior Megan Wilbert.

Although the losses were great, the Lady Panthers managed to start out the season strong by winning their first game against Hobart 5-2. "After losing to Hobart last year in shoot-outs, I knew it was essential for us to beat them this year," said senior Anna Schell.

Along with beating Hobart for the first time in Lady Panther history, a varsity player was also chosen to play in the NCSAA all-district tournament. This is a tournament that features the "best of the best" players from each team that all the coaches

in the district agree should play. The players that are picked to play on the district teams travel to Indianapolis to take part in a tournament where they can then be scouted by colleges.

"It felt weird to work together as a team with some of my rivals from the season," said senior Katelyn Barta, who was chosen to play on the first team this year.

Although the varsity team had some accomplishments this year, the junior varsity team achieved one major goal that every team strives for: an undefeated season in conference. "There were a lot of freshmen on the team and we lost a lot of good players from last year, but we really came together as a team," said freshman Lauren Hernandez.

The annual awards were given at the end of the season including the varsity "rookie of the year" award, which went to both freshmen Yadi Castellanos and Brianna Ally. "It's really nice to be recognized on the varsity team as a freshman," said Ally. The "most valuable player" award was given to Barta, "best mental attitude" was awarded to Wilbert, and senior Samantha McInerney was named this year's "most improved player."



Brianna Ally, '09

Working to get the ball out of the defensive third, sweeper sophomore Cindy McInerney dribbles past a Merrillville player.

"The Merrillville game was physical and we didn't beat them by as much as we expected," said McInerney.



Dribbling the ball for a break away, sophomore Krystal Mendoza evades two Munster players. "I had a really good shot on goal, but unfortunately it was deflected," said Mendoza.

Go•ing the dis•tance

cross coun•try (n.)

1. Across a region or country in particular; not keeping to main or direct roads, routes or railroad lines.

2. One running sport that 14 Griffith High School students participate in to keep in shape, spend time with friends, or invest in their future.



Moments before starting the meet against Morton, Bishop Noll, and East Chicago at Oak Ridge Prairie, coach Shannon Schedel, waits for parents to exit the course. "We did not know how well we would do. Both the girls and boys surprised me and the other teams as well," said Scheidel.

Out of all the sports in high school, cross country could be estimated to require the most endurance. "It takes everything you got. We run 3.1 miles every meet and practice for two hours every day," said sophomore Allison Meece. Cross country does not conform to roads, tracks, or any main routes. It goes above and beyond any other running activity because it consists of long practices, difficult warm-ups, stretches, and exercises. "We do our normal stretches, such as hip circles which are used to stretch legs. We adopted the hip circles from a team in Illinois," said junior David Stokes.

This year however, set apart from all years in the past. Many of the members improved personally, and also as team. Sophomore Anna Steinhubel is considered one of the best runners on the girls team. She received the award of "most improved." Other accomplishments were also recognized, such as junior Joel Kepchar, who placed second in all conference and

continued to make regionals. Sophomore Taylor Austin won conference for her second year in a row, and also made it to semi-state.

Sports such as cross country need more than talent to succeed, but also team members who support each other and bond as a family. "The Thursday before any big invite, the whole team goes to one member's house for a pasta party to get excited for the invite the upcoming Saturday," said Stokes.

Some traditions are used to pass on seniority, which plays a big role in sports and high school overall. "I carried around a team cone that we had other teams sign. It started my freshman year, and I'm passing it down to junior Ryan Zubrick," said senior Jeff Tinich. "This season was the best we've ever done. We were more competitive and we kept up with a lot of teams that we never were able to keep up with in previous seasons," said Tinich.



Katalina Villalpando, 11



Before competing in the Andean Invite at Hidden Lake, the boys team warms up and does their usual exercises. "We spent a lot of time joking around while stretching, but when it was time to get serious we got the job done," said Matthew Mercer.



In an effort to gain victory and achieve a personal record, junior Ryan Zubrick warms up and does his stretches before beginning a race at the Andean Invitational. "I find that I do better when I warm up correctly," said Zubrick.



varsity cross country (row 1) Stephen Duhon, Samantha Aguilar, Anna Steinhubel, Ryan Zubrick
(row 2) Jeff Trinch, Allison Meece, Robert Gonzales, Joel Kepchar, Taylor Austin, Timothy Bullard
(row 3) Nathan Bailey, David Stokes, Shannon Scheidel, Matthew Mercer, Matthew Grahovac

To get pumped up for their meet at Hidden Lake during the Andean Invite, the boys team puts their hands in for a cheer. Everyone on the team achieved a personal record this season. "I like to run because it makes me think," said junior Nathan Bailey.

girls cross country

| | |
|--------------|----------------|
| Highland | 46-20 |
| Munster | 43-20 |
| KV | 33-21 |
| Lowell | 41-20 |
| Andean | 34-21 |
| Hobart | 31-27 |
| Morton | forfeit |
| East Chicago | forfeit |

sectionals: 4th Place

record: 2-6

NCC: 6th Place

boys cross country

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| Highland | 28-27 |
| Munster | 48-15 |
| KV | 31-24 |
| Lowell | 34-23 |
| Andean | 30-25 |
| Hobart | 35-21 |
| Morton | 51-20 |
| East Chicago | 71-20 |

sectionals: 4th Place

record: 2-6

NCC: 7th Place



In anticipation of the sectional race against Gavit, sophomores Anna Steinhubel, Allison Meece, Taylor Austin and junior Katalina Villalpando prepare to start their race to victory. The girls team made it to regionals and placed fourth. "It was my first year and the team was like a family to me," said Steinhubel.



varsity golf (row 1) Chandler Adkins, Cori Cox, Ann Ficht, Rachel Solar, Sara Maywald
(row 2) Jillian Holtzer, Kathryn Baum, Mike Worosz, Sara Brouillette, Alexis Moniks

girls varsity golf

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Munster | 193-214 |
| Lowell | 189-214 |
| Highland | 200-237 |
| Gavit | 237-320 |
| Hobart | 196-220 |
| Hanover Central | 199-215 |
| North Newton | 224-235 |
| Andrean | Forfeit |
| Hammond Clark | 227-250 |
| Crown Point | 174-225 |
| Merrillville | 232-237 |

record: 3-8
NCC: 1-4

With flying hair, sophomore Jillian Holtzer hits a fairway wood closer to the green. She had the stomach flu and was very sick when she was playing against Hanover Central at this meet. "Being on the golf team is like being part of a really big family," said Holtzer.

Lending a helping hand, sophomore Ann Ficht searches for her opponent's golf ball. Hitting a foot past the green,

Ficht had a far shot on Sherwood Golf Course. "This season everyone improved; the team doubled in size, and hopefully, next season someone else will go to regionals again," said Ficht.



Using her driver, freshman Sara Maywald tees off. The ball went about as far as necessary according to Maywald. She thinks she did a pretty decent job for only having gone to the range to practice before the season. "Golf is a hard sport, and you have to concentrate," said Maywald.

Carefully lining up the ball for a putt, senior Alexis Moniks places the ball on the green. Moniks completed the shot with a birdie, which is one stroke under par. "It was an interesting season, and I accomplished all of my goals," said Moniks.



Keeping competition friendly, Coach Mike Worosz talks to the coach from Hanover Central. Worosz used to coach cross country, and he decided to take the position because he enjoys golf and teaching students how to play. "Seeing people get better is the best part about coaching," said Worosz.

Putt putt to vic•to•ry

golf (n.)

1. A game of eighteen holes played on an open course with a small ball and a club.
2. An inspiration to nine high school girls that provides the competitiveness of being on a team.



Following through with her swing at Sherwood Golf Course against Hanover Central, junior Rachel Solar finishes her second shot with her five iron club. "Next year we have a better chance to win more meets," said Solar. "Some of the tougher competitors from other schools will be graduating at the end of this school year."

During the Griffith and Hanover Central golf meet, freshmen Con Cox and Chandler Adkins chat and laugh while waiting to tee off. They went out to play the rest of the course with their opponents. "Before the meet, the team comes together for good luck 'Pinkies in,'" said Adkins.

The season started with nine girls who had a common interest, playing golf. Throughout the year, these girls became a family. "You can always count on someone to be there if you need them," said sophomore Jillian Holtzer.

Playing any sport at GHS provides a great chance of making new friends. The practices bring memories and interesting experiences to all players. Teams hang out at practices, on bus rides, at meets, and at team bonding.

Going out to eat and wishing each other luck by putting pinkies in before they hit the course are some of the things girls golf does as a team.

With her high school golf career coming to an end, senior Sara Brouillette reflects on her season. Sometimes the team would watch movies together. "We usually go to Zorba's before our 18 holes," said Brouillette. Before each meet, the girls focus and think positively about playing. The team tried to listen to "Whataya Want From Me" by Adam

Lambert and yell "wooh" to get pumped to play.

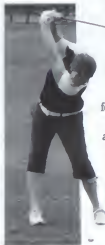
The team would tell stories on the bus. They also talked about their traditions. "I made banana nut bread; it's really good," said sophomore Ann Ficht.

As a team, the girls would share and eat the bread. The girls put extra effort in and spend time together by golfing nine holes at Lost Marsh in Hammond just for the heck of it.

Another thing the team did before and after meets was blast Adam Lambert's "If I Had You." The song would be sung over and over amongst the players.

Freshman Kathryn Baum felt the team grew closer as the season progressed. The sport is both challenging and rewarding for her. "Golf is like having all the competitiveness of being on a team, but you get to work and progress at your own pace," said Baum.

The weather outside during the golf season was nice enough for the team to have pool parties. Most of the girls went over to Baum's house to swim and relax. "We felt more comfortable with each other after bonding," said freshman Chandler Adkins.



Sara Brouillette, 18



A season full of close calls

ten-nis (n.)

1. A game played on a rectangular court with three singles and two groups of doubles, with a goal of winning three of five matches.
2. A group of seven boys who count on one another every match for support as well as winning, like a family.



As August came around tennis coach Tracy Sines, was still not sure of who would play where and when. After losing five varsity seniors from the previous year many spots had to be filled by with returning players who had little or no varsity experience. "Early in the season we went with different line-ups for almost all the games. After a while I just went with what I thought was right," said Sines.

The team started the season with a 1-5 record. "A lot of the first games were really close and it seemed like every match we lost 3-2, with the last game deciding the results," said Sines.

After drawing Highland in the first round of sectionals, the Panthers were quickly eliminated. However, the boys made a lot of progress. The relatively young team only graduated two seniors, and the younger players gained a lot of needed experience. With five returning varsity players and two junior varsity players, who had varsity experience, returning

for the next season, looks promising. "Next season we are returning two experienced singles players and our doubles will have experience too," said Sines.

This season was also filled with individual accomplishments despite the unfavorable record. Senior Keith Lidster, juniors Greg Rothchild and Donald Hoover, sophomore Ross Myers, and freshman Matt

Csonka, all made their varsity debut this year. Also, junior Garrett Litke was the first boy to make it to the second round of sectionals under Coach Sines. "I never thought I would make it this far and it's really awesome. I look forward to next season," said Litke.

Whether a single player achieves all their goals or none of them, every player plays an important role for the team, even if that role is just emotionally supporting their teammates.

Although the record did not show how well the team played, they made valuable progress for the next season. Coach Sines is excited for the 2011 season. "I'm very optimistic about next season and you never know what new players will come up," said Sines.



Jordan Long, 10

Throwing the ball into the air, senior Keith Lidster gets ready to serve. "I hit around this summer and I really liked playing so I decided to go out," said Lidster. He played every varsity match this season, even though this was his first year.



With a focused face, senior James Steinhübel finishes his serve. "I would take time during practice to try and get my serve down," said Steinhübel. Steinhübel spent countless hours throughout the summer and early fall trying to perfect his serve.



Extending as far as he could reach, sophomore Jordan Long reaches for the ball. "The season went really well even though I got crushed at sectionals," said Long. Long played three singles this year and finished with a winning record.



varsity tennis (row 1) Keith Lidster, Jordan Long, Donald Hoover, Greg Rothchild, (row 2) Tracy Sines, Garrett Litke, Ted Fitzgerald, James Steinhubel, Mark Harnew

boys varsity tennis

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Wheeler | 3-2 |
| Portage | 5-0 |
| Rensselaer | 3-2 |
| Crown Point | 5-0 |
| Calumet | 4-1 |
| Lake Station | 5-0 |
| East Chicago | 3-2 |
| Highland | 5-0 |
| KV | 4-1 |
| Lowell | 3-2 |
| Andrean | 4-1 |
| Hobart | 5-0 |
| Morton | 4-1 |
| Munster | 5-0 |
| Bishop Noll | 3-2 |
| Gavit | 4-1 |
| River Forest | 4-1 |
| Highland | 4-1 |

record: 5-13
NCC: 1-5

Following through his forehand, junior Garrett Litke is deep in his first sectional match as one singles against Highland. "I battled cramps in my calf during the longest match of my life, and ended up pulling out on top," said Litke. Litke advanced to the next day of sectionals after winning.

Talking things over juniors Ted Fitzgerald and Greg Rothchild catch their breath between games. "It's important to talk during doubles because we play together and need to know what each other are thinking," said Rothchild. This year, they played one doubles together.

Serving the ball, sophomore Ross Myers gets ready to play his first sectional tennis match. "Playing on varsity this year was very challenging, but I also had a great time playing with the guys," said Myers. He played two doubles this year with Keith Lidster.





varsity basketball (row 1) Amy Belcher, Presley Conch, Branna Bias, Kelsey Bonewits, Ashley Parish, Alyssa Gebo, Fernanda Bugarin

(row 2) Emily Witvoet, Emma Blackard, Taylor Austin, Samantha Marker, Sammi Adams, Brooke Brinkley



JV basketball (row 1) Emma Blackard, Taylor Austin, Janessa Salinas, Alyssa Gebo, Sammi Adams

(row 2) Amy Bubala, Jasmine Alvarez, Emily Witvoet, Jazmine Bell, Vanessa Blankenship

girls varsity basketball

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Lake Central | 52-39 |
| River Forest | forfeit |
| Hobart | 44-36 |
| Morton | 70-6 |
| Clark | 68-11 |
| Hebron | 52-26 |
| Rensselaer Central | 42-33 |
| Andrean | 43-36 |
| Munster | 48-31 |
| Wheeler | 38-20 |
| Hobart | 45-24 |
| Portage | 40-38 |
| KV | 54-24 |
| Gavit | 29-15 |
| Highland | 66-33 |
| Lowell | 47-41 |
| East Chicago | 52-44 |
| West Side | 49-46 |
| Hammond High | 51-19 |
| Knox (sectional) | 42-40 |
| Andrean (sectional) | 38-31 |
| Culver Academy (regional) | 49-46 |
| Benton Central (regional) | 56-42 |

record: 15-8

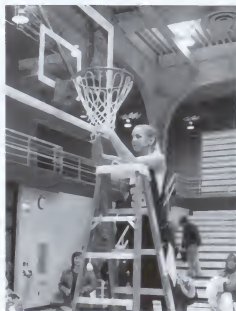
NCC: 4-2

Senior Presley Conch shoots to score in an intense game.

"Ashley set me a good screen which left me with a wide open lay up in our offense 2-guard, created by the one and only Jack Gabor," said Conch.

After winning the sectional game versus Andrean, junior Kelsey Bonewits cuts down the net. "It felt awesome to know that all of our hard work had paid off and we came together as a team," said Bonewits. The whole team cuts off a piece of the net as a reward of their victory.

The team gets together to talk about plays during a timeout of the game. "We take time-outs to calm down and gather ourselves. They also are used for us to set up a new play to come back on the court and do," said junior Brooke Brinkley.



3peat

three sectional championships

bas-ket-ball (n.)

1. A game played between two teams trying to get the ball in the hoop as many times as possible. There are five players on the court at one time.
2. A group of girls who spend five months working together and preparing for games. Throughout these months the team becomes close and creates memories and friendships that last a lifetime.

Bonding is an essential part of a great team. It allows the team to become comfortable around each other and trust one another. Spending time together improves communication on the court and unifies the team.

"My favorite bonding activity was pasta nights because I like to eat and I enjoy spending a lot of time with the team," said sophomore Sammi Adams. The girls basketball team had pasta nights every Monday. The team also had bonding activities such as sleepovers, going out to eat, and going to the boys basketball games together.

Many high school athletes dream about winning a sectional championship in their high school career, but winning three consecutive sectional championships is not something many teams are able to accomplish. The Lady Panthers made GHS history by winning back-to-back sectional titles last year, and this year they did it for the third time.

"We [Lady Panthers] work very hard in the off season by competing and executing everyday in practice, which gets us where we've gone to the past three years," said senior Presley Corich. The players cut down the net once again after their sectional win.

The girls went on to regionals and played the Culver Academy Eagles and were successful, beating them in an intense game of 49-46. The Lady Panthers advanced to the second round of regionals but were defeated by the Benton Central Bison.

High school athletes spend most of their high school career preparing and working toward goals. Some players' goals are to continue playing in college. Playing a sport in college is one way to save

money. Senior Ashley

Parish was one player that received an offer to play. Parish is attending Indiana University Northwest and playing basketball for them. "I wanted to continue playing basketball at a collegiate level. They have a really good program and it's close to home," said Parish.



Sammi Adams, 10



During the game versus the Hammond High Wildcats, senior Samantha Marker jumps in the air for the ball. "I was trying to steal the ball away from the other player so I could shoot and score," said Marker. The Lady Panthers beat the Wildcats 51-9.



In order to get around her defender, senior Ashley Parish shuffles her feet while maintaining her defensive position. "It was a very intense game. I had to stop her from penetrating," said Parish.

Work•ing to • wards the fu • ture

bas-ket-ball (n.)

1. A game played between two teams of five players in which points are scored by throwing one ball through a netted hoop fixed above each end of the court.

2. Two teams who practice countless hours with the goal of winning a state championship; running endless suicides and practicing six out of seven days a week to proudly wear a black and gold school jersey.



After losing six seniors, the boys varsity basketball team had a rough rebuilding season. With only one returning starter, the non-starters from last year had some big shoes to fill. The team started off strong with their first game against Whiting coming out as a 50-45 victory. Unfortunately, the rest of the season did not go as smoothly as planned. The basketball team only won three out of twenty-one games throughout the entire season.

"The season was disappointing because we didn't have a winning season, but it was great getting to play with all of my friends for my senior year," said senior Ed Johnson.

Before sectionals, the team went to Bridges Scoreboard in Griffith to bond and get pumped up for their first sectional game at Reneselaer Central. The Panthers faced the Andean Fifty Niners, which was very close until the bitter end. The Panthers lost at sectionals 63-45.

The team did have many highlights throughout the season. The Panthers beat Hobart 57-44 as their first Northwest Crossroads Conference

victory. The team's final win came against Calumet. The game was intense and the Panthers wrestled out a victory 60-54.

The Panthers also participated in the annual Wheeler Tournament where they faced the home team,

Wheeler, for the first game. The game ended in a loss 71-29 and the boys came back the next morning to play Hobart to try and win the third place spot. The boys lost to Hobart 57-51 and came in fourth place for the Wheeler Tournament.

This year the team graduated seven seniors. "I'll miss the seniors a lot because they were funny and I learned a lot from them even though they fought a lot," said sophomore

Austin Brown.

Although the seniors had their differences, they all agreed on their advice for the underclassmen. That advice was to play hard, leave everything out on the floor, and play each minute like it is their last.



Jesse Smith, 10



Playing point guard in the game against Kankakee Valley, senior Tyrell Tinnin handled the ball past his defender. "Walking out on senior night was the highlight of my three years on varsity. I'll miss all of the seniors and playing with my friends the most," said Tinnin.

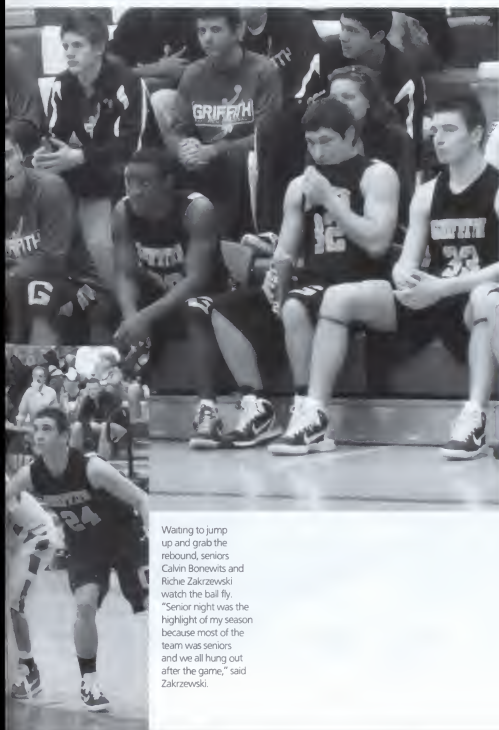
Huddling together before every game, the Panthers circled up and got their adrenaline pumping. "The best part of pre-game is the feeling we get when we run out as a team. There's no feeling like getting pumped up," said junior Garrett Litke.



After getting an insane leap towards the basket, senior Calvin Bonewits reached to score two points against Calumet. "The overall season was not what we as a team wanted, but it was an entertaining season for my senior year," said Bonewits.



Offense wins games, but defense wins championships. Guarding his opponent from Calumet, senior Danny Miller tried to force a turn over. "The hardest part about defense is moving your feet and trying to keep up with an opponent who is quicker than you," said Miller.



Waiting to jump up and grab the rebound, seniors Calvin Bonewits and Riche Zakrzewski watch the ball fly. "Senior night was the highlight of my season because most of the team was seniors and we all hung out after the game," said Zakrzewski.



varsity basketball (row 1) Ed Johnson, Jesse Smith, Garrett Litke, Tyrell Tinnin
(row 2) Stephanie Brandner, Riche Zakrzewski, Austin Brown, Gilbert Eatman, Amanda Bakko
(row 3) Jeff McClanahan, Danny Miller, Calvin Bonewits, Justin Fronek, Jonathan Acevedo, Robert Fleishman, Ryan Fisch



JV basketball (row 1) Jacob Schnoor, Robert Fleishman, Edward Clay, Andrew O'Brien, Austin Foster, Anton Calvert
(row 2) Brandon Gale, Anthony Carter, Steven Fry, Angel Nunez, Kortland Bryant



freshmen basketball (row 1) Matthew Colomes, Kyle Bukema, Dominique Whitehorn, David Schell, Brandon Dyer
(row 2) Malik Mitchell, Tyler Palanca, Rodney Lewis, Deshon Robertson, Tristin Olsen
(row 3) Tyler Lipski, Zachary Stickley, Dan Santori, Tyler Douglas, Erick Johnson

boys varsity basketball

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| Whiting | 50-45 |
| Clark | 78-62 |
| Morton | 86-71 |
| Highland | 59-46 |
| Crown Point | 58-38 |
| Wheeler | 71-29 |
| Hobart | 57-51 |
| Hanover Central | 62-45 |
| Hobart | 57-44 |
| East Chicago | 67-39 |
| Lowell | 72-41 |
| Gavit | 67-49 |
| Andean | 67-53 |
| Hammond High | 61-48 |
| Munster | 89-40 |
| Calumet | 60-54 |
| Rensselaer Central | 60-49 |
| Bishop Noll | 76-51 |
| Kankakee Valley | 61-46 |
| Lake Station | 55-49 |
| Andean (sectionals) | 63-45 |

record: 3-18

NCC: 1-5



pantherettes (row 1) Nelisa Caraballo, Kelly Jones, Brooke Trueblood, Jillian Dixon
(row 2) Sarah Clark, Sarah Guistolis, Hanna Vrabely, Emilee Trueblood, Marisa Rios, Sarah Vrabely, Brooke Maglish
(row 3) Mallory Baccino, Sara Fisch, Tessa Trueblood, Katie Bridges, Vicki Solvais, Sara Joyce, Sydney Hilbrich

competitions

Munster:

Pom- 2nd, Hip Hop- 2nd

Kahler:

Pom- 1st, Hip Hop- 1st

Lake Central:

Pom- 3rd, Hip Hop- 3rd

Westfield:

Pom- 2nd, Hip Hop- 3rd

Regionals:

Pom- 1st, Hip Hop- 4th

State:

Pom- 3rd

Dancing at a home football game, the Pantherettes provide half-time entertainment. "I love performing at football games because there are a lot of people there to watch. Everyone usually enjoys our dances," said junior Emilee Trueblood.



Before every performance and competition, the Pantherettes sing "Kokomo" by the Beach Boys. "Before we perform pom we sing the traditional version, but before hip hop we rap the lyrics," said freshman Marisa Rios.



Clapping for the starting line-up of the boys basketball team, the Pantherettes show their support. "I love performing at basketball games.

It shows our school spirit and our dedication," said senior Jillian Dixon.



While performing their competition pom routine at a basketball game, juniors Sarah Clark and Hanna Vrabely kick on the floor in sync. "I normally enjoy performing pom, but this performance was scary because Hanna [Vrabely] passed out during it," said Clark.

Condensed into their letter block while performing at a home football game, the Pantherettes form a panther paw with their poms. "Football games are more exciting to perform at than basketball games, because there are more people there," said freshman Brooke Maglish.



Turn·ing our swag on



swag (n.)
1. Makes up three components of a person: overall confidence, style, and demeanor. Turned on at 6:00 a.m. and turned off at midnight, right before bed.
2. Turned on around Griffith High School by wearing a Pantherette fan t-shirt. The theme of the hip hop routine performed by the Pantherettes.



The 2010-2011 Pantherette dance team faced a year of changes and new beginnings. Between injuries, a change in division, six incoming freshmen, a new coach, and competing in the ensemble and solo competitions, the Pantherettes grew very close as a team. "By the end of the year, our team becomes more like a sisterhood. We go through a lot together, and dance together for eleven months," said senior Nelisa Caraballo.

During hip hop choreography camp in July, freshman Sarah Vrabely shattered her elbow. "I was attempting a new partner skill, and I fell out to a straight elbow. My arm extended the opposite way than it was supposed to," said Vrabely. She went to the hospital right after camp that day. "I heard the crack of her elbow as soon as she hit the floor," said junior Sarah Clark. Vrabely was able to compete by December. In January, freshman Sydney Hilbrich fell down the stairs and broke her collarbone. She was not able to compete for the rest of the season. "I hated sitting out. I wanted to dance with my team so badly," said Hilbrich.

Terri Calhoun, the three year Pantherette coach, was not able to attend many practices due to her health. Joann Joyce, freshman Sara Joyce's mom, became the assistant coach for the last half of the year. "At practice, my mom became only my coach. At home, we didn't really talk about dance," said Sara Joyce.

The Pantherettes competed in solo and ensemble competition this year. The small ensemble was composed of junior Sarah Guistolisi, sophomore Katie Bridges, and freshmen Sara Joyce and Brooke Maglish.

The large ensemble consisted of seniors Brooke Trueblood, Kelly Jones, Jillian Dixon, and Nelisa Caraballo, juniors Hanna Vrabely and Mallory Baccino, and freshman Marisa Rios. The

small ensemble placed fifth in the state competition. Joyce and Maglish also competed in the junior solo competition. "I loved having a solo, because it enabled me to show my skill individually," said Maglish. "I was able to dance with more personal style, and I didn't have to blend with the team."



Brooke Trueblood, 11



Putting on their costumes for pom, hip hop, and large ensemble, some of the Pantherettes prepare for various performances. "This was our first year competing in the ensemble category. It was a great experience, but it made competitions even more chaotic than they normally are," said senior Kelly Jones.

Kill it six feet un•der

cheer-lead•er (n.)

1. A person who leads cheers and applause, especially at a sporting event; one who is especially enthusiastic and upbeat.

2. Thirteen girls who endure two seasons full of stunts, sore bodies and cheers in order to lead the Panthers to victory.



"Change" was the theme for this year's cheer squad. Before the season officially started, there was no one slated for the coaching position and then one stepped in for a few days. Finally, Nicole Duttlinger was hired to lead the squad. There were many other new things, such as summer boot camp and a prom dress fashion show.

To compete with other high schools in their area, the varsity and junior varsity squads had to combine and make a squad which consisted of eleven cheerleaders with one alternate. "With having JV helping us, we had bigger and better stunts, larger formations, and louder cheers. At the same time, they had to step up their game. Overall, I think we all did a splendid job," said senior Rebecca Basaleh. The girls competed at La Porte and Portage High School. The first competition at La Porte High School was some of the girls' first time ever stepping on to the competition floor.

"I was so nervous that I continually lost my balance, but the overall experience was thrilling," said freshman Lisa Calvillo. Most schools that compete have really big and hard tumbling passes. This helps those teams score

higher with the judges. For Griffith, we are not a tumbling squad, so that left senior Kyra Scheeringa to try to earn all of their high tumbling points. "It was exciting at the beginning, but later on it became very tiring and I even

messed up one of my sets," said Scheeringa. Hosting the prom dress fashion show was also an adventure. This fashion show was a big fund raiser for the cheer fund. One of the junior varsity cheerleader's mother helped coordinate this event with the help of Paris Elegance in Michigan City, Indiana. The dress store allowed each girl to choose three to four of their favorite dresses to model. "It was awesome to know that you could try on any dress you wanted and not have to worry about looking at the price tag," said junior Jenny Lanfear. Also, the Paris Elegance gave the cheerleaders two \$150 vouchers for a free dress to raffle off.

"It was very hectic getting all our make up done and dresses pinned, but it was a success at the end," said freshman Destiny Moore. This fund raiser was very profitable for the cheerleaders. The money helped with new uniforms and future competition entry fees.



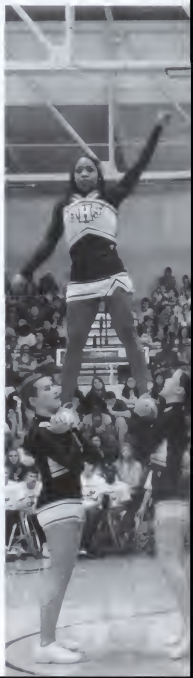
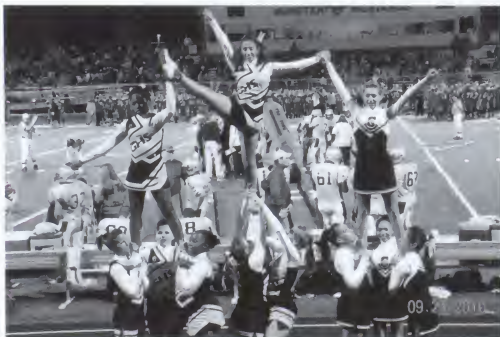
Morgan Ollon, 11



Going from back spot to base in one competition routine can get very confusing, but junior Crystal Vanwhite is able to nail it every time.

"Going from back spot to base was so different, because there is a lot more weight to lift as a base and different hand placement for each spot," said Vanwhite.

With having the junior varsity squads help the varsity, the cheerleaders were able to do bigger and more complex stunts at both their games. "I thought it was exciting and a great opportunity to see what it is going to be like if I made varsity next year," said freshmen Dana Lesmewski



happily cheering at the wheelchair basketball game, junior Kyrah Eatman gets very into the game. Cheering with this squad is not only enjoyable because we are good, but because we get along and have so many inside jokes," said Eatman.

While they wait to get their hair done, senior Kyra Scheeringa does freshman Kamille Manning's make-up for competition. "Getting ready was very hectic, because while I got my make-up done I thought about all my spots and then I got more nervous than before," said Manning.



varsity cheerleading (row 1) Rebecca Basaleh, Taylor Surowiec, Kyra Scheeringa
(row 2) Kyrah Eatman, Crystal Vanwhite, Jenny Lanfear, Ellison Cullen
(row 3) Brienne Andriessen, Nicole Duttlinger, Emily Witvoet



JV cheerleading (row 1) Dana Lesniewski, Kamille Manning, Nicole Duttlinger, Lisa Calvillo, Destiny Moore

competitions

La Porte:

2nd place

Portage:

1st place



"I was very excited when we found out that we got first! Beating the other team was even better, because they were very cocky," said junior Emily Witvoet. The Hoosier Open Competition was the girls' second competition in five years.



boys bowling (row 1) Brian Scheeringa, Ross Myers, Christopher Pluncinski, Dale Young, Seth Verbach
(row 2) Robert Turnbull, Steven Gronkiewicz, Jeff Tinich



girls bowling (row 1) Cali Lemus, Katelyn Roberts, Margaret Cartwright, Katelyn Lisle
(row 2) Sarah Koliboski, Courtney Hargis, Elizabeth Kras, Holly Shew

boys bowling

| | |
|------------|-----|
| conference | 7-4 |
| sectionals | 4th |

girls bowling

| | |
|------------|-----|
| conference | 6-5 |
| sectionals | 1st |
| regionals | 7th |

Overall: 13-9

individual sectional qualifiers

Elizabeth Kras
Courtney Koleski
Christopher Pluncinski

individual regionals qualifiers

Elizabeth Kras
Courtney Koleski
Christopher Pluncinski

semi-state individual qualifier

Courtney Koleski

state individual qualifier

Courtney Koleski

To make her bowling skills better, senior Courtney Koleski applies the liquid bandage to her hand after cutting herself bowling. "The bowling team is very supportive of each other. We are like brothers and sisters," said Koleski.



With bowling ball in hand, sophomore Katelyn Lisle attempts to put points on the scoreboard for her team. "Highland was definitely our biggest competition, but they were really friendly," said Lisle. This is Lisle's second year on the bowling team.

"Our practices aren't all intense and serious. We joke around and see who can score the highest," said sophomore Brian Scheeringa. The bowling team practices every Tuesday at Plaza Lanes and the next day they have a match.



Excited to get ready for sectionals, junior Margaret Cartwright smiles to the camera with her teammates. "At sectionals, we were all super stressed out because we wanted to get first and beat Highland," said junior Cartwright.

After their big win at sectionals, the whole team poses with their sectional trophy and coach Rick Wolesyn. "When we won sectionals I was so happy. After we won, we went out for pizza and everyone got really hyper," said Lemus. It's the third straight year that the girl's bowling team won at sectionals.



One strike closer to state

bowl-ing (n.)
1. Game played by rolling a bowling ball down a wooden alley to knock down 10 pins.
2. Sport where students individually compete and each of their scores contribute to the outcome of the match.

The Griffith High school bowling team has had a long run this year. They practiced hard every Tuesday to accomplish what they wanted.

The girl's team tied for third place with Edison High School in Conference. Just like the girl's basketball team, the girl's bowling team had a 3-peat: this was the third straight year the girl's bowling placed first at sectionals and made it to regionals. Although they placed very high at sectionals, regionals was exceedingly different. The girl's placed fifth out of eight teams at regionals.

The two main stars of the girl's team were junior Elizabeth Kras and senior Courtney Koleski. Both were chosen to be in the all conference bowling team. Individually, Kras placed second at sectionals and was chosen to be the Conference Bowler of the Year. "Being voted Conference Bowler of the Year was awesome. I feel very proud and just happy," said Kras.

At sectionals, Koleski placed seventh. Although Kras placed ahead of Koleski at sectionals, Koleski placed ahead of Kras at regionals. "It really didn't matter for me that Elizabeth placed ahead of me because we are part of the same team. I was happy for her," said Koleski. She placed second at region-

als. Although Kras placed tenth, that wasn't enough for her to make it to semi-state. Koleski made it to state but didn't win, only placing tenth.

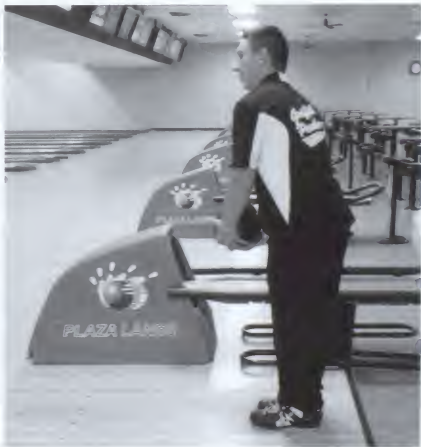
Although the boys did not get as far as the girls, they did try their best. The boys placed second overall following behind Highland. Just like Kras and Koleski, two of the boy's bowling members made the All Conference team: seniors Christopher Plucinski and Jeff Tinich. Not only was Tinich chosen to be on the team, but he was also chosen to be Conference Bowler of the Year. "Being able to be on the All Conference team and be the All Conference Bowler is cool, especially because it is all happening now that I'm a senior," said Tinich.

Even though the girl's made it farther than the boys there were no hard feelings. "We get along with each other like brothers and sisters," said Hargis. The whole bowling team bonds by going out for pizza and bowling for fun without keeping score. "The bowling team this year has gotten much closer than it's ever been and I hope they stay that way," said senior Seth Verbach.

With determination in his eyes, senior Steven Gronkiewicz bowls a strike for his team. This was Gronkiewicz's first time bowling for the high school team. "No matter what happened we always got along. We never gave up," said Gronkiewicz.



Katelyn Little, 10



Exceeding expectations

boys swimming (n.)

1. 15 male swimmers who attempt to race against the clock and beat their best time.

2. A small group of athletes who are extremely close and are not afraid to push each other to their limits, whether they hate them for it or not.

When October 17 rolled around, coaches Sam Fies, Jenna Berzy, and Shannon Sheidel looked around bewildered. "We were very surprised at the number of boys who came out this season. It was the lowest number I have ever seen," said Berzy. This year just 15 boys tried out for the 2010-2011 season. The staff

knew that with just with such little numbers many obstacles were ahead. "As a team you could have as much talent as you could imagine, but with such little numbers, you could lose regardless," said Berzy. Despite their numbers, the boys persevered this year with their best record in six years.

On November 30, the Griffith boys opened up with a devastating 50-133 loss to Munster. "Going into the Munster meet we know that we're going to get killed every year, and it's important just to swim your best," said sophomore Thomas Kudyba.

When January 3rd came along, the Panther's had managed to win four of the last five meets, and were preparing

to face Highland, who has beaten them every year Fies has been Griffith's head coach. Although the Panther's lost the meet 67-116, the scoreboard did not show how close the meet had actually been. "We swam great against Highland and every race except the sprints were close," said sophomore Andy Duhon.

The team managed to win out the rest of the regular season, and took the expected fourth at conference. The ending of Conference means that the boys were to put in "two more hard weeks" [a saying used by Sam Fies

throughout the 2009-2010 season that the boys had brought back]. This meant that the boys would have to give it their all in order for the two week taper to work. "Basically a taper is two weeks of extremely hard practice, then a week of easy practice to allow your muscles to recover and become stronger," said freshman Andrew Pelot.

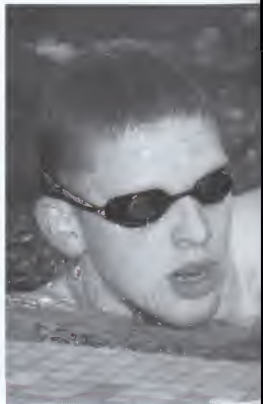
The taper proved to pay off as every boy had their best time in at least one race during the 2011 sectional held at Crown Point High School. "Although I did not swim during sectionals, I thought everyone did really well," said Pelot. The boys took sixth place this year.



Zach Bozinovich, 12

Diving into the water during the 100 yard backstroke at conference is senior Zachary Bozinovich.

"Conference this year went really well, I took 4th place in the back and had my best time of the year so far," said Bozinovich. Conference was held at Munster High School's brand new aquatic center.



Before a back dive junior Joey Vaclavik attempts to balance himself. "It's important to balance yourself before a dive because the whole dive could be messed up if you're not," said Vaclavik. He was the only boy diver this season.

With his shirt held up, senior Zach Pirtle pushes his stomach out to appear pregnant, then senior Matt Fitch casually reaches out and touches it. "Pasta parties have been exciting all four years, and this year was no exception," said Pirtle.



During the breast stroke freshman Logan Denny pushes himself through the water. "I love swimming for Griffith, I like the people and can't wait until next season," said Denny. Denny took eighth place as a freshman at sectionals, but wished that he had done better.

Catching his breath during a turn in practice, sophomore Danny Bolda gets more prepared for a meet. "I don't always do my turns because practice gets boring after a while," said Bolda. He swam the 100 yard butterfly along with the 200 IM this year.



After finishing the 500 yard freestyle at Wheeler High School, senior Matt Fitch relaxes and looks up at his time. "The 500 sucks because half way through you realize your tired but still have 200 more yards to go," said Fitch. Fitch dropped 15 seconds off his time from the beginning of the year until the end.



boys varsity swimming (row 1) Mike Delpino, Andrew Pelot, Danny Bolda, Andy Duhon (row 2) Jenna Berzy, Joey Vaclavik, Jordan Long, Zach Pirtle, Logan Denny, Vid Dragutinovic, Shannon Sheidel (row 3) Doug Price, Thomas Kudyba, Jeremy Starks, Zachary Bozinovich, Matt Fitch, David Stokes, Nick Kudyba, Sam Fies

boys swimming

| | |
|--------------|---------|
| Munster | 133-50 |
| Gavit | 114-60 |
| Hobart | 115-32 |
| K.V | 94-89 |
| Merrillville | 98-86 |
| Wheeler | 114-57 |
| Highland | 116-67 |
| Morton | 92-86 |
| Lowell | 102-83 |
| Calumet | 99-32 |
| East Chicago | 152-94 |
| Hammond High | 152-60 |
| Bishop Noll | 142-124 |
| Clark | 142-41 |

record: 11-3

NCC: 2-3

sectionals 8th



girls varsity swimming (row 1) Bri-anne Andriessen, Kati LeBrun, Caitlin Brown, Manon Carter, Maegan Glass
(row 2) Shannon Kunka, Lauren Hernandez, Alyssa Lanting, Lauren Paprocki, Rachel Mierzwa, Angel James
(row 3) Shannon Schidel, Sydney Gonzalez, Victoria Smith, Jesse Yarnelle, Rachel Garastik, Stephanie DiSanto, Lesley Pietsch, Jenna Berzy, Emily Solar
(row 4) Kathryn Baum, Doug Price, Sarah Kuna, Jacy Vuckovich, Taylor Backe, Kalie Lastagarkov, Cristina Aldape, Sam Fies

girls varsity swimming

| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| Highland | 129-57 |
| Lowell | 137-47 |
| Munster | 143-43 |
| Gavit | 108-60 |
| Hobart | 98-84 |
| Kv | 125-60 |
| Merrillville | 138-48 |
| Wheeler | 128-49 |
| Morton | 135-43 |
| Calumet | 108-44 |
| East Chicago | 159-71 |
| Hammond | 159-85 |
| Bishop Noll | 152-71 |
| Clark | 152-57 |

record: 8-6

NCC: 1-4

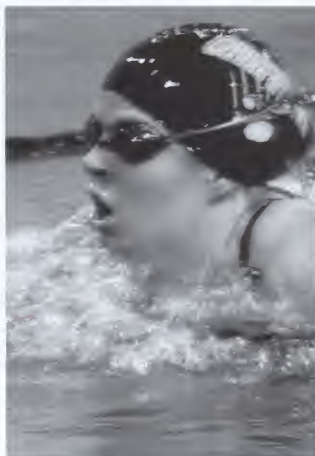
About to dive into the pool, sophomore Bri-anne Andriessen focuses on the task at hand. "I was in gymnastics and it really gave me an advantage when it came down to diving," said Andriessen



Excited for their teammate to win the race, the swimming team gathers around the pool at a home meet. "This meet was hilarious because a guy from East Chicago did the splits before his race to warm up," said sophomore Angel James.

Enjoying some free time at practice, senior Alyssa Lanting talks to teammate Rachel Mierzwa. "Talking to teammates in between sets is what helps get me through a two and a half hour practice," said Lanting.

"Even though the butterfly is difficult I enjoy it because I like a challenge," said sophomore Allison Meece. She was trying to finish the hardest part of the butterfly, the last half while facing Gavit.



Overcoming barriers

swim-ming (n.)

1. A total of six girls competing against each other in the ice cold, chlorine-filled water in order to reach one goal of winning.
2. Group of girls that dedicate their free time to swimming laps and breaking records.

First time ever swimming the IM (individual medley) race. Senior Rachel Mierzwa gets over being nervous. "My coach put me in it randomly just to see what my time would be. It wasn't as hard as I thought it would be," said Mierzwa.

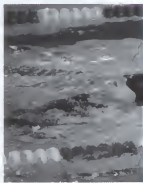
Griffith High School girl's swim team had a rough start to the season. The girls started their season with their first three meets resulting in a loss. "I was upset when we lost our first three meets because I knew we were capable of accomplishing a lot more," said junior Cristina Aldape. This resulted with the girls ending their season with a record of 8-6.

Although, these hard working swimmers had a tough season ending with a NCC record of 0-4 they gained something more valuable than a conference title: they ended their season as a team. Throughout the season the girls had drama issues between teammates. The group of girls shared an interest and talent, swimming. But, the separation among the girls were causing more issues and resulted in them not being a team. "Us not being a team really effected our season at the beginning, but once we realized we could be a team we came together and it showed by us winning our last 6 meets," said sophomore Manon

Carter

The captains decided that they needed to do something about the drama issues that the girls were having. In an effort to become a team they ended practice an hour early to have team bonding at junior Rachel Garastik's house. "I think having team bonding was a great idea because it involved divers, and we never got included," said sophomore Shannon Kunka. The girls ordered pizzas and had "team togetherness" to sort out why they were not acting as a team. By the end of the night the girls were closer then ever. "It was time with each other, and it felt good to get to know everybody," said sophomore Maegan Glass.

"Overcoming barriers to performance is how groups become teams," an unknown author said. Overcoming barriers is exactly what these swimmers did. Coming together by the end of the season made these swimmers a team. The girls won their last six meets, ending their season with six consecutive wins. "I thought it was good for the team to know that we could win if we really tried, said freshman Kati LeBrun. They may not have won a conference victory, but they overcome barriers and won something far more valuable, a team.



Maegan Glass, 10



Manon Carter, 11

Focusing on reaching the touch pad, junior Kalle Lastagarkov swims the butterfly. "Butterfly is the hardest stroke, but it's my favorite," said Lastagarkov. Her best time for the 100 yard butterfly this year was one minute and nine seconds.



Waiting patiently to hear the results of their swim meet sophomores Sarah Kuna, Jesse Yarnelle, and Maegan Glass stand together. "Jesse and I are together every meet and always wait to hear the results together," said Kuna.

Pin 'em down

wrestling (n.)

1. A sport in which two opponents struggle hand to hand in order to pin or press each other's shoulders to the mat or ground.

2. A group of guys who wrestle independently but practice and train together as a team to advance to state.



Sophomore TyLuan Culbreath wrestles one of the biggest rivals of Griffith. "Hobart is a huge rival because they are always very good and tough to beat," said Culbreath. His career record was 12-18.

This year, many of the wrestlers made it past sectionals and senior Brian Orzechowicz took sixth place at state. "Going to state has been my goal for my entire life so it felt amazing to even qualify and place," said Orzechowicz.

Freshman Nathan Reitz, sophomores Jose Perez and Preston Nelson and junior Tyler Yost qualified for semi-state.

Junior Tyler Yost placed fourth at regionals which was the farthest he has ever gone. "My season consisted of slamming kids and causing concussions," said Yost.

Many awards were handed out at the winter banquet including academic all-state awarded to Orzechowicz, varsity most valuable wrestler awarded to Orzechowicz, varsity most improved junior awarded to Nicholas Stassin, and best mental attitude awarded to junior Zach Muller. The captains this year were seniors Collin Slagle, Ahmad Khalid, Orzechowicz, and junior Stassin. "As a captain I had to step up and help take charge of the team. I had to help keep the team in line and make sure they didn't fight," said Stassin.



Brian Orzechowicz, 92

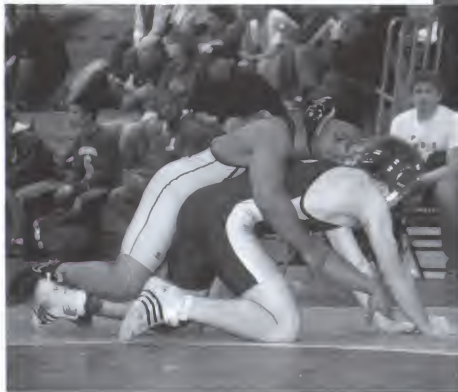
Muller plans on stepping up for his senior year. "Yost and I are going to help the younger kids to improve their game," said Muller. He qualified for regionals but did not advance to semi-state.

A tradition of the wrestlers is going out to eat. Every Saturday, seniors Jack

Blount, Slagle, Orzechowicz, and Yost would go out to eat at Bridge's Score-board. "We are good friends in and out of wrestling so going out to eat made us closer," said Yost. "We would always order root beer floats and Boiler Burgers."

The team participated in many tournaments. For the

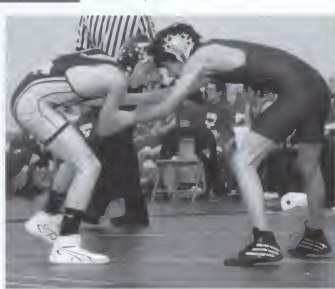
Broncho Showdown Duals they placed last, for the Harvest Classic they placed sixth out of sixteen teams, for the Munster Super Dual they placed fifth out of six teams, for the Griffith Super Dual they placed second out of eight teams, for Lake County they placed fifth out of seven teams, for NCC Conference Griffith placed fifth out of seven teams, and for sectionals the team placed fourth out of nine teams.





Senior Collin Slagle ended the season with a personal record of 27-1. One of his last matches and wins was a tough one again Calumet. "You don't deserve to win, you earn it. B-man is my hero," said Slagle.

One of the only freshmen on varsity, freshman Nathan Reitz, attempts to take down the other wrestler. "My favorite move to take someone down is called the double leg," said Reitz. This year Reitz was a semi-state qualifier.



One of the four captains, senior Brian Orzechowicz takes down his opponent from Calumet. "A lot of the underclassmen looked up to me as a captain and a wrestler," said Orzechowicz. "As a captain, I had to get the team warmed up."

First time wrestler, senior Jack Blount pins his opponent from Morton at the Griffith Super Duel tournament. "The kid just couldn't handle me," said Blount. Blount pinned his opponent in the first round of the match.



Struggling to get out from under a Hobart wrestler, junior Ryan Bluhm uses all his energy to get free from his rival. "I ended up flipping the kid over and pinning him. It was such a tough match, but I was glad I won," said Bluhm.



varsity wrestling (row 1) Nathan Reitz, David Koen, Ahmad Khalid, Zach Muller, Louie Martinez, Jake Kosellek, Brian Orzechowicz (row 2) Conner McCabe, Jayson Howard, Preston Nelson, Tyler Yost, Tyjuan Culbreath, Mark Rex, Ryan Bluhm (row 3) Victoria Mares, Cassandra Root, Alex Diaz, Collin Slagle, Ryan Camp, Jack Blount, Ali Acevedo, Sara Torres (row 4) Chris Mares, Justin Herrera, Ryan Dunlap, Jordan Grady, Travis Walls, Nicholas Stassin, Jose Perez, Cornelius Jemison, Russ Radtke

varsity wrestling

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Warren Central | 64-14 |
| Delphi | 69-12 |
| Roncolli | 60-9 |
| Zionsville | 56-24 |
| Lafayette | 66-18 |
| Lowell | 39-29 |
| Munster | 48-28 |
| Lake Central | 47-23 |
| Michigan City | 42-36 |
| Chesterton | 45-27 |
| Laporte | 41-36 |
| Andrean | 77-6 |
| Highland | 69-12 |
| Kankakee Valley | 45-29 |
| River Forest | 42-38 |
| Morton | 54-30 |
| Hobart | 37-31 |
| Lake Station | 49-29 |
| Calumet | 49-15 |

record: 7-12

NCC: 2-4



varsity tennis (row 1) Chandler Adkins, Mercedes Hermosillo, Jeanette Salazar, Sara Torres, Michelle Torres, Jessica Hermosillo, Amy Zellers
(row 2) Kassy Lopez, Kaitlyn Meyer, Jacy Vuckovich, Alyssa Carter, Stacy Weber, Chrissy Colgrove, Karina Silva, Nia Ross
(row 3) Mark Harnew, Ali Acevedo, Katie Cahill, Lindsey Sopetti, Michelle Sopetti, Sydney Lidster, Lindsay Pierce, Amber Atkins, Tracy Sines

girls varsity tennis

| | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Calumet | 5-0 |
| Bishop Noll | 3-2 |
| Lake Central | 5-0 |
| Clark | 5-0 |
| Portage | 5-0 |
| Morton | 4-1 |
| KV | 3-2 |
| Highland | 5-0 |
| Hobart | 5-0 |
| Lowell | 5-0 |
| Munster | 5-0 |
| Andrean | 3-2 |
| Hammond | 5-0 |
| River Forest | 5-0 |
| West Side (sectionals) | 4-1 |
| Highland (sectionals) | 5-0 |

record: 7-9

NCC: 1-5

Playing at the number three varsity singles position, sophomore Michelle Urena moved up to the spot this year as a sophomore. "It's definitely more competitive and more serious," said Urena.



As she pulls back her racquet, sophomore Karina Silva practices returning serves before the River Forest match at Griffith. "All of the girls need to work hard this summer if they want to play varsity next year," said Silva.



Soph·o·mores

Step it up

ten-nis (n.)

1. A team sport and individual sport played as singles or doubles; a game played over a net consisting of two or four players, a ball, and racquets.

2. A springtime activity played by many girls for the enjoyment, experiences, and opportunities.

Freshmen partners Kaitlyn Meyer and Chandler Adkins speak about the team line-up. Meyer and Adkins played four junior varsity doubles. "Playing tennis is time consuming, but I'm glad to have had the opportunity to play," said Meyer.



In the 2010 season, two seniors were on the girl's varsity tennis team; this year that number advanced to six. Several players, most of them being seniors, competed for the different standings that had opened up.

Michelle Urena, the only sophomore on the varsity team, played up. She acquired the position because Maricarmen Meraz completed her schooling early at semester and would not be able to participate in spring sports. Sophomore Sydney Lidster was Urena's prime competitor for this spot. The girls played three challenge matches and Urena won two.

Through the season at regular matches, sophomore junior varsity players: Ali Acevedo, Karina Silva, and Lidster filled in for absent varsity players. These matches were the first varsity matches for each of these girls. "Varsity matches are more tiring, and the playing time is longer with two sets," said Lidster. She hopes to play varsity again next year

although it is more challenging.

Tracy Sines, head coach, played Acevedo with senior Sara Torres and sophomore Michelle Torres with senior Michelle Sopetti in the Highland Doubles Tournament on April 30th. The tournament lasted about five to six hours and each pair of doubles played three or four matches. Griffith tied and took 4th place.

"I was able to play for varsity, and it's way different than the JV tournament," said Torres. She and her partners won two of the three matches they played.

Acevedo and Lidster were named to the sectionals roster. The girls went to the matches in case they were needed to fill in for other players. They also cheered for their teammates. Sectionals started on Wednesday, May 18th.

Highland, Calumet, Gary West Side, and Griffith all competed in the same bracket. On day one of sectionals, Griffith played Gary West Side. Griffith advanced to the sectional championship and played Highland on Thursday, May 19th. The title sectional champ runner-up was given to the Panthers.



Michelle Torres, 10

Number one varsity singles player for two years in a row, senior Jessica Hermosillo has played singles for three years and she has played tennis at GHS for four years. "Playing number one has been a challenge and a great experience," said Hermosillo. "I'm going to miss it all when I'm gone, I couldn't have done it without Miss Sines," said Hermosillo.



This being her first year, freshman Jacy Vuckovich enjoyed the season with partner freshman Kassy Lopez. Vuckovich worked on algebra homework at the match against Andean. "While waiting to play, I do homework sometimes and talk to other players," said Vuckovich.

A sea·son un·der par

golf (n.)

1. A game played on an open course with 18 holes, the object being to use the fewest possible strokes to complete the course.
2. A group of 13 boys, who aren't afraid to say what's on their mind and critique each other often.



In mid swing, sophomore William Bogan, focusses on hitting the ball perfect. "Full concentration is needed while swinging because if you mess up even a little, the ball could slice or go in the wrong direction," said Bogan.

After losing two seniors from last year's varsity team, the Panthers returned three varsity players, senior Joshua Kisfalusi and juniors Josh Ashenbaugh and Nick Stassin. The 2010-2011 season looked promising if one other individual stepped up.

"We were really excited this season as a whole, because we knew this team had potential to qualify for regionals as a team for the third-straight season," said senior Joshua Kisfalusi.

With a record of 13-4 the previous season, the team had a little margin of error if they planned to improve. The boys began practicing in early March, and throughout Spring Break they had to practice all-day.

The season began with four players fighting for the final two varsity spots, two freshman and two seniors. "I was happy with my performance at the beginning of the season, but I knew I had more potential," said freshman Mark Plawewski.

Although the team started off with a poor record, they were able to win a few conference matches against Highland

and Kankakee Valley. "We had some struggles, but we kept our minds focused on the main goal for the season: advance to regionals as a team," said senior Matthew Fitch.

As the regular season came to a close, the Panthers record did not show how well the team could shoot, so the team still had confidence going into sectionals.

"Once school ended, we practiced everyday for long-hours helping our chances of doing well at sectionals," said junior Nick Stassin.

Sectionals however, did not go as planned either. Juniors Nick Stassin and Josh Ashenbaugh missed advancing to regionals individually by a single stroke. Senior Joshua Kisfalusi had the best score for an individual not as a team, so he advanced to regionals as an indi-

vidual. "I was happy to advance, but my performance was not as well as I had hoped. I also was disappointed we did not advance as a team," said Kisfalusi.

The team finished the season with a 5-8 record and placed 3rd in the NCC conference. They have high expectations for next year with the most of the team returning.



Jonathan Berdino, 9





Between shots sophomore Jacob Loomis and coach Mike Worosz talk things over. "It always helps to get a different point of view or help with a shot from Coach Worosz," said Loomis. Worosz was helping Loomis choose which club to use.



Senior James Steinhubel pictures his next shot in his head. "It's important to focus on your next shot if you want to hit a perfect shot," said Steinhubel.

After their previous two shots, senior Joshua Kisfalusi and junior Nick Stassin begin to walk towards the green. "I enjoy walking with Stassin because he keeps the game comical," said Kisfalusi. Kisfalusi and Stassin often played the course together during practice.



varsity golf (row 1) Josh Ashenbaugh, Joshua Kisfalusi, Tyler Morrison, Logan Bocock, Ross Myers, Dakota Broelmann, Zachary Spires
(row 2) Mark Plawecki, Jonathon Baccino, Matthew Ficht, Mike Worosz, William Bogan, Nick Stassin, James Steinhubel

Before beginning his put junior Nick Stassin scopes out the green to see if there are any breaks in the green. "It's important to read the green or look for bumps or slopes before putting because that can effect the ball movement," said Stassin.

boys varsity golf

| | |
|-----------------|----------|
| Portage | 155-192 |
| Andean | 170-181 |
| Highland | 177-194 |
| Lowell | 177-187 |
| Kankakee Valley | 183-189 |
| MC Marquette | 157-201 |
| Wheeler | 181-201 |
| Hanover Central | 176-185 |
| Calumet | 183-195 |
| Morton | 183-205 |
| Hobart | 175-194 |
| Munster | 169-197 |
| Bishop Noll | 215-220 |
| NCC Tourney | 362, 3rd |
| sectionals | 358, 4th |

record: 5-8

NCC: 3-3



varsity track (row 1) Megan Garcia, An Suarez, Deziree Walker, Holli Haager, Shi Fassoth, Shadeja Syas, Jaimie Drummond (row 2) Destiny Barajas, Anna Steinhubel, Kelly Jones, Jazmine Bell, Victoria Mares, Caitlin Brown, Dominique Anderson, Brianna Nelson, Taylor Steffan, Samantha Aguilar (row 3) De'Andrea Kirnes, Abigail Grabos, Cassandra Root, Taylor Austin, Shanaizha Scheeringa, Jesse Yarnelle, Brittini McEmore, Melissa Martinez, Allie Meece (row 4) Shannon Scheidel, Shae Siokos, Willetra Caldwell, Faith York, Katalina Villalpando, Natasha Martin, Kallie Drummond, Rachelle Fogarty, Angel James, Ashley Pinkham (row 5) Travis Walls, Lisa Calvillo, Billie Reitz, Sarah Kuna, Janessa Salinas, Kelsey White, Krystal Mendoza, Alyssa Gebo, Alex Brandon

girls varsity track

| | |
|----------------|--------|
| Highland | 89-34 |
| Munster | 106-26 |
| Lowell | 89-42 |
| Hobart | 66-66 |
| KV | 90-33 |
| Andrean | 87-35 |
| Gary Roosevelt | 105-11 |
| sectionals | 4th |

record: 2-4-1

NCC: 1-5



After the high jump event, sophomore Taylor Austin runs the four by eight hundred meter relay and won all of the events. "Before I run, I stretch and get myself pumped for the relay," said Austin



On Tuesday, May 10, freshman Cassandra Root jumped four feet and ten inches in the high jump. The high jump warms her up for her next event, the four by eight hundred meter relay. "My goal is to get over five feet before I graduate," said Root.

Running the mile, freshman Victoria Mares got sixth place at the Highland meet. She listens to music and stretches to get prepared for the run. "The mile is hard but if you pace yourself it gets easier," said Mares.

track (n.)
1. There are 16 different events that go on during the track meets. The team splits up into these different events and compete, but in the end they are one.
2. A combination of field, distance, and sprinting events that help prove how far you can push yourself and who has your back if you fail or succeed.

Let's get back on track

In the beginning, the girls track season did not start off well but the girls did not lose hope. They practiced really hard and ended their season receiving fourth place out of eleven teams at sectionals.

On weeks that the girls did not have meets, they practiced for two hours everyday after school. The weeks they did have meets, they only practiced for an hour the day before, and did not have practice the day after the meets.

"Practice definitely helps me and makes me stronger. A typical practice consists of running and working out in the weight room," said sophomore Anna Steinhilber.

The team did not have any pasta nights or sleepovers, but they did have one team bonding event. There was a dance off in the weight room after school. Everyone was crowded around juniors Shi Fassoth and Brittini McLemore and freshmen Jazmine Bell and Dominique Anderson.

"The girls track team was working out in the weight room and we were

listening to the radio. 'Teach Me How To Dougie' came on and I was teaching them how to 'Dougie'. It was an interesting experience," said McLemore.

The team qualified to go to regionals this year. The girls who went to regionals were the four by

eight hundred meter relay team: juniors Billie Reitz and Sa-

mantha Aguiar, sophomores Taylor Austin, Caitlin Brown, and Alyssa Gebo, and freshman Victoria Mares. Senior Holli Haager qualified for pole vaulting and juniors Janessa Salinas and Shanaizha Scheeringa qualified for shot put. "I've gone to regionals since freshman year and I was still nervous about going this year," said Salinas.

At regionals, there were some misunderstandings

with the pole vaulting event. The height was suppose to be set to seven foot, but instead was at eight foot one inch. Haager was the only regional finalist who had not cleared eight foot, so it was very difficult for her. "I would just like to congratulate the girls who made it to regionals and that mama pole vault will be coming back next year to help," said Haager.



Shanaizha Scheeringa, 11



While waiting for their race to start, sophomore Caitlin Brown and her teammates try to pump each other up so they can get ahead in the meet. "I feel like when I talk to my friends before a four by eight relay I do better than when I don't talk to them," said Brown.

At a home meet against Highland, sophomore Alyssa Gebo receives second place for the 100 meter hurdles. "I was so nervous I fell on one of the other hurdles during the meet," said Gebo.



Stay·ing on track

track and field (n.)

1. Athletic events performed on a running track and the field associated with it.
2. A sport where endurance and strength is everything, where all the individual work adds up to the whole team's place.



Pole vault was added to the Griffith track and field team in 2010. At that time, junior David Stokes was the only member of the team that participated in the new event. This year, though, junior Robbie Megquier joined Stokes in competing in the event.

Before trying pole vault, Megquier was running the 110 hurdles. Now, he is doing both pole vault and the hurdles. "During the 110 hurdles, I felt jumping over the hurdle and someone stepped on my hand with their spiked shoes," said Megquier. After that incident, Megquier had blood coming out of his hand from the spikes. He had small holes in his hand, but Megquier fought through the pain and kept practicing for pole vault. All the pain was worth it, though, when Megquier made it past sectionals, jumping 11 ft, and into regionals for the first time.

The boys ran sectionals at Morton High School in Hammond. Only a portion of the team made it past sectionals and into regionals. Junior Troy Yarnelle advanced for the 110 and 300 hurdles, the 4x1 relay, and 4x4 relay. Senior Michael Sims competed in the 200 dash, 4x1 relay, and 4x4. Junior Paris Davenport was part of the 4x1 relay and high jump. Senior Gilbert Eatman ran the 4x1 relay, and junior



Robbie Megquier, 11

Joel Kepchar ran the two mile race. The 4x4 relay team consisted of sophomore Austin Brown, Stokes, Sims, and Yarnelle. For the field events, junior Maciek Szczepkowski threw shot put, and discus. "I like shot put better because I feel like I have more

control of the shot put and I feel like I have more strength," said Szczepkowski.

Out of all the runners that made it into regionals, only two runners made it to state: Sims and Yarnelle. Sims made it in the 200 yard dash and Yarnelle competed in the 300 low hurdles. Yarnelle placed second at regionals to qualify to advance to state. Sims and Yarnelle had exactly one week to practice to be prepared

to compete at state in their races. At Indiana University Bloomington, where the state track meet was held on June 3rd, Sims ran his best at a time of 22:24 seconds. He placed 10th at state. Yarnelle ran at a time of 39.87 seconds. He placed 18th out of 30 other runners at state. "My biggest accomplishment was being at state only as a junior and not being last in my race," said Yarnelle.

With one foot over the hurdle, junior Troy Yarnelle tries to outrun his opponents. Yarnelle runs the 110 and 300 hurdles. "Winning MVP at the Lowell Relays was my most memorable moment in track," said Yarnelle.



To win first place in the long jump event, senior Ed Johnson has to jump farther than 20 feet. "I used to run the 100 meter race but now all I do is long jump," said Johnson. Johnson has been part of the team for four years.



Jumping over the high jump pole at the Lowell meet, senior Gilbert Eatman tries to beat his opponent. "My highest jump was six feet four inches," said Eatman. His favorite event is the high jump because that is his strongest event.

In ready position for his 100 meter race on the new Griffith High School track was senior Ahmad Khalid. "My favorite thing about track is the competition against five or six runners," said Khalid. His biggest rivalry was Highland High school.



varsity track (row 1) Andy Duhon, David Koen, James Davidson, Taylor Louie, Miguel Valtierra, Jayson Howard, Julian Wright
(row 2) Timothy Ballard, Julian Cartagena, Quincy Moore, Robert Gonzales, Jacob Schnoor, Eeryn Abram, Andrew Figueroa, Ahmad Khalid
(row 3) Matthew Bluhm, Carlton Valliant, Gilbert Eatman, Steven Paprocki, Ed Johnson, Rodney Lewis, David Stokes, Troy Yarnelle, Dominique Whitehorn
(row 4) Jimmy Burch, Austin Brown, Christopher Melton, Angel Nunez, Robbie Megquier, Kortland Bryant, Paris Davenport, Jenna Berzy
(row 5) Russ Radtke, Maciek Szczepkowski, Jay Hicks, Zachary Bozinovich, Jonathan Acevedo, Micheal Sims, Brian Orkis

Passing the baton to teammate junior Jake Schnoor, senior Zachary Bozinovich finishes his two laps around the track.

"The 3200 meter relay is the hardest race for me because you have to sprint two laps around the track," said Schnoor.



boys varsity track

| | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Highland | 70-56 |
| Munster | 81-51 |
| Lowell | 70-62 |
| Hobart | 88-66 |
| Kankakee Valley | 68-64 |
| Andrean | 79-53 |
| Gary Roosevelt | 110-21 |

record: 3-4
NCC: 2-4



varsity softball (row 1) Carrie Sheaks, Aubri Larson, Alex Latronica, Ashley Parish, Kristi Buxton, Ed McLeod, Kylie Temple (row 2) Sammi Adams, Amber DelPrado, Sarah Galambos, Hope Ryan (row 3) Erica Yost, Stephanie Brandner, Marris Mihalcik (row 4) Emilee Trueblood, Tiffany Burbridge



JV softball (row 1) Don Bence, Taryn Grin, Emily Kuzmanoff, Jamie Rex, Katie Gardner, Kevin Brackett, Samantha Monko, Destiny Moore, Sierra Gutierrez (row 2) Kristen Drozd, Abigail Little, Camesha Scheeringa, Sarah Gates, Chelsea Shinkle (row 3) Jessie Mazzone, Caylee Adams, Ailey Clark, Chloe Norton

varsity softball

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Merrillville | 10-0 |
| Chesterton | 13-3 |
| Boone Grove | 7-4 |
| Hobart | 5-3 |
| Highland | 13-0 |
| Andean | 2-0 |
| Hanover Central | 7-0 |
| Munster | 3-2 |
| South Bend Riley | 3-2 |
| South Bend Riley | 4-3 |
| Lowell | 7-1 |
| KV | 1-0 |
| Andean | 7-1 |
| Hobart | 2-1 |
| Highland | 7-1 |
| Munster | 3-0 |
| Lowell | 7-2 |
| KV | 7-1 |
| Lake Central | 7-0 |
| Calumet | 8-5 |
| Wheeler | 8-0 |
| Knox (sectionals) | 3-1 |
| Andean (sectionals) | 2-1 |

record: 10-11

NCC: 4-8

Before the start of the inning, juniors Stephanie Brandner and Rhiannon Cox and freshman Erica Yost gather by second base. "We [the infielders] always make jokes to try and keep each other in good moods in our huddles before the innings," said Yost.



During an intense game versus Andean, sophomore Sarah Galambos faces a tough at bat. "Andean is our biggest rival. Neither team scored until the very end, so I was trying my best to hit and get on base," said Galambos.

Focusing on the batter, senior Alex Latronica pitches with great force and determination. "I really like pitching because it is one of the most important parts of the game. You're always moving and focused on the game," said Latronica.



Striv·ing to·wards vic·to·ry

soft-ball (n.)

1. A game played with nine girls on the field with one opposing team member batting. Each team tries to hit and score as many runs to win the game.

2. A team that practices and prepares all year long to try to be the best and win as many games, while making memories along the way.



Every sport has their traditions, inside jokes, pasta parties, and team bonding to make them a more unified team. But for the girls on the softball team, bonding is something that came naturally. Most of the girls on the varsity team were returning varsity players, except for one freshman added, so it was very easy for everyone to get along. "Being the only freshman on the varsity team was nerve-wracking at first, but everyone was nice to me and we all became really close," said freshman Erica Yost.

The girls also had many bonding activities, such as pasta parties, going out to eat, and sleep-overs. One tradition consists of holding pinkies during the National Anthem. The team has been doing this for many years. There were also two new traditions added this year. One of them is getting bows for the girls' hair before every home game. The bow was attached to an index card and had an inspirational quote written on them. Another added tradition was doing big sister-little sister gifts. Each varsity player (big sister) was assigned a JV player

(little sister) and on every home game the girls gave each other small gifts such as gatorade and candy. "I really enjoyed doing big sister-little sister because it gave the varsity players a chance to get

to know the JV players better," said sophomore Jamie Rex.

On Tuesday, May 24th, the Lady Panthers played Knox for their first round of sectionals.

The girls were successful and won 3-1. The second round of sectionals was

on Friday, May 27th, the Lady Panthers faced the Andean 59ers. Andean is one of the biggest rivals for the softball team. The Lady Panthers scored one run in the first inning when junior Stephanie Brandner hit a double. Unfortunately, that one run was not enough to win. The 59ers came back and won 2-1, ending the girls' season.



Merris (Merris) 11

During a time-out, the infielders huddle up to prepare for the next play. "Before we start an inning, we all huddle up to get our thoughts ready. I'm very superstitious and we have to yell to the outfielders in an exact order every game," said junior Stephanie Brandner.



In the game versus Hanover Central, sophomore Sammi Adams swings at the ball. "I was trying my best to time the pitch right and get on base," said Adams. "After I got on base, I stole second and third base, and eventually made my way home to score a run for us," said Adams.



Keep·ing

a chip on your shoul·der

base-ball (n.)

1. A ball game played between two teams with nine players each on a field with a diamond-shaped circuit of four bases.
2. Nine young men all working together to score more runs than the opposing team.



This year the Griffith High School boys varsity baseball team thought the season would be heading in a more positive direction after their first game of the season against Calumet ended with a win 33-1. Soon

after, their hopes had been turned completely upside-down. During the second week of the season a whole week of games had been cancelled due to the rain. The team had sixteen games total that were postponed from four different schools: Morton, Crown Point, Lowell, and Highland.

"Due to the rain at the beginning of the season our team practiced more in depth, which progressed us for our more difficult games to come during the season," said junior Zach Muller.

This year Coach Brian Jennings decided to change things up and ordered the baseball spirit packs with a new unusual quote on the back of the boys' t-shirts: "Have A Chip"

"The meaning behind the 'Have A Chip' quote is for the boys to play with a chip on their shoulder. Due

to our last year's season, we are known not to be the biggest guys around but I want the boys to play with more of an attitude and hopefully that attitude will encourage these boys not to back down," said Jennings.

This year along with a new team motto, the teams completely changed. There was no freshman baseball team due to not enough freshman boys trying out for the team for this season.

"Only ten or eleven freshman boys tried out, which wasn't going to be enough for a full team so two of the freshmen boys moved up to varsity,"

said Jennings.

The two freshman that were moved up to varsity were freshmen Brandon Gar-

cia and Kyle Buikema.

"When I found out I was being moved up to varsity I felt extremely nervous trying to impress the coaches while still doing the best that I could," said Garcia.

Even being the rookie of a team, all of the boys have come together and learned how to work with one another during this season.



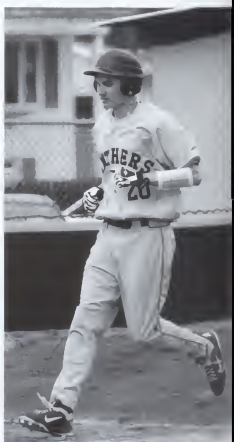
Zach Adams, 12



During the fifth inning of the Andean game, senior Calvin Bonewits stretches to first base to get the batter out. "Andean is a very good team and I'm looking forward to seeing them in the sectional," said Bonewits



Running to home plate, sophomore Brandon Gale gets ready to bat. "One of my favorite parts of baseball is getting to hit the ball as hard as I can. It really allows me to release stress when I need it," said Gale.



Starting for the first time as a varsity catcher, junior Shawn Gallina gets ready for the first game of the season. "We played Calumet so we all knew it wasn't going to be a super serious game," said Gallina.

Up on the mound sophomore Alex Diaz had his eyes peeled on the baseball as he gets ready to pitch. "I had to react quickly because the batter hit a grounder to second base," said Diaz.



varsity baseball (row 1) Zac Adams, Shawn Gallina, Zach Muller, Cody Modglin
(row 2) Brett Brinkley, Jack Blount, Jesse Smith, Kyle Buikema, Michael Dobosz, Brandon Garcia
(row 3) Garrett Litke, Jeremy Camp, Calvin Bonewits, Eric Bean, David Gonzalez



JV baseball (row 1) Byron Jones, Matthew Colomes, Joey Rivera, Jacob Koselke
(row 2) Tristin Olsen, Tyler Lipski, Tyler Palanca, Jordan Long
(row 3) Ryan Camp, Anthony Carter, Cameron Kegebein, Brandon Gale, Alex Diaz

boys varsity baseball

| | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Calumet | 33-1 |
| Portage | 3-2 |
| Merrillville | 8-1 |
| Lake Central | 18-0 |
| Kankakee Valley | 14-3 |
| Andean | 9-0 |
| Mishawaka | 11-4 |
| Mishawaka | 10-9 |
| Munster | 8-0 |
| Chesterton | 3-2 |
| Whiting | 3-1 |
| Highland | 3-1 |
| Center Grove | 9-3 |
| Terre Haute | 12-7 |
| Kankakee Valley | 4-3 |
| Hobart | 12-2 |
| Andean | 12-5 |
| Highland | 5-0 |
| Lowell | 2-1 |
| Munster | 6-4 |
| Hammond Clark | 12-2 |
| East Chicago | 16-1 |
| Hobart | 8-4 |
| Lowell | 3-2 |
| Washington Township | 5-4 |
| Gavit | 6-4 |
| Bishop Noll | 5-2 |
| Rensselaer Central (sectionals) | 9-4 |
| Andean (sectionals) | 12-1 |
| record: 16-13 | |
| NCC: 6-6 | |

One of the first players at bat during their first game of the season against Calumet, senior Cody Modglin gets calm and focused. "Always stay focused at the plate and keep your eye on the ball," said senior Cody Modglin.





On May 19, sophomore Brian Corrie plays hacky sack outside in the courtyard during lunch. "I play with sophomore Andrew Rothchild during lunch. I like chilling outside hacking it with my friends. It's a great way to go outside and enjoy the fresh air during the boring school day," said Corrie. Students were allowed to eat lunch in the courtyard at the beginning and end of the school year when the weather was warm.

be·ing

(v): 1. To attend school at GHS for four years. Freshmen, sophomores, juniors, seniors all fit into this category. Every person forms friendships, enemies, and relationships, and although Griffith is a small school, students still see new faces every once in awhile.

Everybody started out their high school career as a freshmen who was probably scared that they would either get lost, have nowhere to sit at lunch, get trampled by big, scary upperclassmen, or wouldn't be able to open their locker in the H hall. For the first weeks, the freshmen were all turned around in our three small main hallways. Freshman year was a little intimidating for anyone, to say the least. As a new face in the hallway, all freshmen experienced confusion and excitement. They may have known who all the cool upperclassmen were, but sadly to the upperclassmen all the freshmen carried the same scared expressions. However toward the end of the year, the freshmen didn't seem too scared anymore, and they started to break out of their shells and showcase their true personalities that had been hidden behind a timid appearance.

The sophomores had a full year under their belt already, most of them excited that they did not have to endure the torture they had the previous year. By sophomore year, most students had their favorite class, subject, teacher, and group of friends. They were ready to enter their easiest year of high school and therefore putting less effort into school work, and more effort into making memories that would last forever. The sophomore class was in charge of planning the winter Turnabout dance. They had to choose the theme, which was "Enchanted" by Taylor Swift. The colors were burgundy and pearl white. Since there were no early dismissals in January, the Turnabout dance was held on a Saturday, which made the price of the hall rise. Even with a little less money to spend, the sophomores planned out a successful Turnabout night.

Also during students' sophomore year, many of them got their drivers licenses and were therefore able to experience more freedom than before. Many sophomores got to know more upperclassmen through sports and extracurricular activities and were sad to see the seniors leave. Most sophomores felt relieved, though, because they still had two more years of high school ahead of them.

By junior year, these students were ready to be upperclassmen. After hearing rumors about junior year being the hardest, many students were ready to find out for themselves. Being an upperclassmen was very stressful at times. Many students had to take the SAT test and started searching for colleges that might suit them. The junior class was also in charge of planning the junior-se-

nior prom. The theme was "Stay With Me", a song by Josh Gracin. It was held on May 6th. Aside from all the homework and planning, the junior class still managed to hang out with friends in order to relax from all the stress of school work.

The last group of high schoolers, the seniors, were finally the top dogs of the school this year. After three long years of anticipation, the seniors were finally able to plan out homecoming and graduation festivities. On May 27th, the seniors got to enjoy the day long senior cookout. This was the first year that the cookout and graduation rehearsal was a full school day, however students were dismissed around noon.

One word that was most familiar to seniors: senioritis! It affected many people in the twelfth grade and caused many of them to procrastinate. Senior year brought upon many lasts. Many seniors experienced a sense of nostalgia while dancing with their best friends at their last prom, attending senior nights, standing for the pledge in their last fourth hour class, using their last lime green hall pass, cleaning out their locker for the final time, and saying their last good-byes to many of their peers at graduation. Throughout the four years of high school, every student experienced moments of joy, anger, and sadness. The 937 people who attended Griffith went through many of the same heartaches and triumphs. In

high school, students learned to mature while preparing for the next chapter of their lives. Every year, students walked in to Griffith High School for the first time, and out for the last time. Throughout the four years between orientation and graduation, students learned to overcome the many obstacles on the long road of high school.



DECA competition



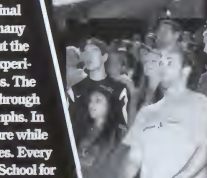
Chloe Norton, Janae Ren, Sheri Gutierrez, Taylor Louie, Jr



Students on a field trip at New River



March, May, 10



Students and teachers

Krystal Bandy
Brenda Bonewits
Kelli Bridges
Teresa Carstensen
Sarah Cohen
Kristina Collard
Eddie Covarrubias



James Ford
Justin Fronek
Peter Ghrist
Jim Graff
Lorraine Hageman
Kathy Keller
Bonnie Manuel



Lisa Megquier
Keith Mitchell
Nanette Naranjo
Kay Orzechowicz
Amy Ott
Luann Pramuk
Russ Radtke



Lynn Roades
Dan Santori
Shannon Scheidel
Justin Schroeder
Sheila Vaclavik
Julie Wencloff
Don Whittermore



Chris Wroblewski
Linda Zaborowski



did you know?



Krystal Bandy, biology, was a Scientist/Graduate Research Assistant for four years (as a part of graduate study at Purdue University) before becoming a teacher.

Rita Gray, gym, was a nurse at West Allis Memorial Hospital in Wisconsin for 10 years before becoming a teacher, and is still a registered nurse.



Shannon Scheidel, FACS, helps students save money by making alterations to their Turnabout or Prom dresses. "I know how expensive it is and I didn't mind doing the small fixes during my prep hour," said Schedel.

Thom Howell, business, shows different slides to all his classes to help the them learn about business faster. "I love my students and I love that I can learn from them, as much as they learn from me," said Howell.



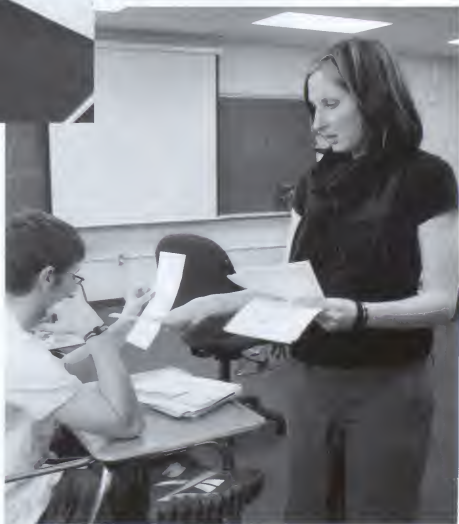


Guiding freshmen Tara Arnold in the right direction, Pat Saddler, art, shows her where to start the project. "The most exciting part of teaching art is seeing the students gain confidence in their work," said Saddler.

Jenna Candiano, substitute, takes over for US History and Government while Mark Swanson, history, is on medical leave for the remainder of the year. "Teaching at Griffith has been an exciting experience and I am very thankful I have a job," said Candiano.



To help show more school spirit Luann Pramuk, history, helps the sophomore class council make signs for their homecoming float. "I enjoy helping out and seeing the students outside of the classroom and on a more social level," said Pramuk.



Jonathan Acevedo

Football 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 12) Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12 Students Council 11 Class Council 11, 12 Homecoming King 12

Zac Adams

Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12



Natalie Aguilera

Raymond Alvarez

Science Olympiad 10, 11, 12 (Captain 12) Science Super Bowl 10, 11, 12 (Captain 12) Spell Bowl 11, 12 Math Super Bowl 10, 11, 12 DECA 11, 12 (Vice President) National Honor Society 11, 12 Volunteer at Adler Planetarium 12 Purdue University Calumet Intramural Flag Football 10, 11, 12 (Captain 12)



David Arndt

Football 9, 11 Basketball 9

Stephanie Baker



David Baldazo

National Honor Society 11 Class Council 12 Bowling Club 9, 10, 11, 12 (3rd Place 11) (1st Place 12) Spell Bowl 10, 11 (3rd Place 10) (2nd Place 11) Choir 9, 10, 11, 12 (Chorale 12)

Katelyn Barta

Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 12) Class Council 12



Rebecca Basaleh

Cheerleading 10, 11, 12 Booster Club 10, 11, 12 Soccer 9

Eric Bean

Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12 Football 9, 10, 11 Basketball 9



In pre-calculus, senior Derek Moseley uses a smartboard to do a problem. "I like the smartboards because they're fun to write on and it's a different way of doing problems, so it keeps you more interested in learning," said Moseley.



In yearbook class, seniors Kristen Pospychala and Mandi Clark use a back scratcher. "Mandi was helping me test out my new back scratcher. I got at the yearbook Secret Santa Christmas party," said Pospychala.



Ice skating at Deep River Waterpark is a popular activity to do over winter break. "We both had never ice skated before and wanted to do something fun over winter break. I fell a lot, but I still had a good time with my friends," said senior Fernanda Bugarin.

While sitting in Brian Jennings senior English class, seniors Jake Witt and Zack Thomas read the *Panther Press*. "I like English class because I like having easy classes my senior year," said Witt.



advice for

underclassmen from seniors

☞ Respect your upperclassmen. ☞
-Kelly Jones, 12

☞ Express yourself. ☞
-Ryan Riggie, 12

☞ Learn to walk correctly, don't stand in huddles in the hallways. ☞
-Rachel Mierza, 12

☞ Never stop trying even if you feel like you can't do it. ☞
-Imani Ross, 12

☞ Don't stress out and don't procrastinate. ☞
-Charles Roberson, 12

☞ Get it done and get it over with. ☞
-Steven Gronkiewicz, 12

☞ Strive for perfection. ☞
-Melody Elkins, 12

☞ Graduate a semester early. ☞
-Melissa Thrall, 12

☞ Do well freshman year and don't slack off. ☞
-Vance Thomas, 12

☞ Don't procrastinate and do the best you can do. ☞
-Joe Zuniga, 12

☞ Don't miss a lot of school because you get behind easily. ☞
-Kelsey Revis, 12



Brian Beaupain

Amy Belcher

Drama 9, 10, 11, 12 Student Council 9 Booster Club 12 Girls Basketball Manager 12 Class Council 10 Choir 9, 10, 11, 12 (Choirle 12)



Elizabeth Biancardi

Reflector 10 Panther Press 11, 12 (Feature Editor 12) Booster Club 11 ACES 9 Drama 9, 10 Quil and Scold 12

Kaitlyn Biancardi



Timothy Biancardi

Volunteer for Grimm Football Radio "Lakeshore Game Nights" 12

Jack Blount

Football 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 12) Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12 Basketball 9 Wrestling 12 National Honor Society 11, 12



Matthew Bluhm

Logan Bocock

Wrestling 9 Football 9, 10, 11, 12 Golf 11, 12



Calvin Bonewits

Martin Bowman



Amanda Boyer

Zachary Bozinovich

Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12 Swimming 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 12) Track 12

Sara Brouillette
Fernanda Bugarin



Magaret Butkus
Matthew Butkus



Kristi Buxton
Softball 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 12) Reflector 10,
11, 12 (Sports Editor 12) Class Council 10, 11, 12
(Treasurer 12) Student Council 9, 10 The Edge 11



Desiree Cadiz
Softball 9, 10, 11 DECA 11, 12 National Honor
Society 11, 12



senior moments

"My most memorable moment was making it to state for bowling again because it was the best way to end my high school bowling career."
-Courtney Koleski, 12



"My most memorable moment was when my friends and I were out getting things for the senior prank and Art Garda [senior] ran over my foot with his car."
-Michael Dobosz, 12



"My most memorable moment was during swimming. Our 400 freestyle relay got honorable mention in our conference for being top 3. I will miss the swim team, it was a big part of my life."
-Zach Pirtle, 12



"My most memorable moment was the pep rally because it was cool to see the competition between classes and it's right before homecoming."
-Amanda Boyer, 12



Katie Cahill
Band 9, 10, 11, 12 (Section Leader 12) National
Honor Society 11, 12 Tennis 9, 10, 11, 12
International Club 9, 10 FCLCA 9, 10 TAMS
Competition 11



Mia Campbell
Class Council 9, 10, 11, 12 Student Council 10, 11,
12 SADO 9, 10, 11, 12 (Co-President 11, 12) Panther
Council 11 National Honor Society 12



Nelisa Caraballo
Kyriah Carter



Cassie Christenson
Band 9, 10, 11, 12 (Section Leader 12) Soccer 9,
10, 11 Academic Super Bowl 11, 12 Spill Bowl 11, 12
Science Olympiad 12



Mandi Clark
Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12 Class Council 10, 11, 12 Student
Council 12 Booster Club 9, 10, 11, 12 Reflector 11,
12 (Co-Photo Editor 12)



Senior Casey McDaniel sits in her ceramics class talking with her friend. "I like ceramics because I like getting a break from other classes and school work," said McDaniel. "My favorite project was the coil pot."



Senior Jacob Johnson sits in his class with his two friends and talks. "My favorite class is English because some of my good friends are in it so it passes the time quickly," said Johnson.



In her independent research (I.R.) class, senior Nicky Nunez draws an abstract fish. "I'm an I.R. for Mr. Graff and he gives me projects to do," said Nunez. "I have been working on this fish since the beginning of the semester and it took me until February to finish it," said Nunez.

Talking to their lockers are seniors Regina Hope and Dustin Holycross, who have had their lockers next to each other since freshman year. "It's been our special locker buddy bond that keeps us friends," said Hope.



Tyler Cogliari
Chrissy Colgrove

The Edge 12, 12 (Editor-in-Chief 12) Tennis 9, 10, 11, 12 National Honor Society 11, 12 Drama 9, 10, 11, 12 (Best of Show 11) Student Director 12) Student Council 11, 12 Class Council 10, 11, 12 (Secretary 11) Choir 9, 10, 11, 12 (Chorus 12) Vice President 12) Booster Club 9, 10, 11, 12 Reflector 10 International Club 9, 10, 11, 12 FCCLA 9, 10, 11, 12



Alejandro Cordova
Presley Corich

Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 12) Softball 9, 10 Student Council 10 Booster Club 9, 10, 11, 12 Class Council 9, 10, 11, 12 International Club 10, 12



Nick Crachy
Quinette Craig-Garland



Garret Craven
Christopher Curnow



Jillian Dixon

Reflector 10, 11, 12 (Editor-in-Chief 12) Pantomime 11, 12 National Honor Society 11, 12 (Secretary 12) Student Council 9, 10, 11, 12 (Treasurer 11) The Edge 10, 11, 12 (Editor-in-Chief 11) Booster Club 9, 10, 11, 12 (Vice President 12) Class Council 10, 11, 12 FCCLA 9, 10, 11, 12 (Public Relations 12) Drama 10, 11, 12 International Club 9, 10, 11, 12 Cheerleading 9, 10 (Captain 10) Quill and Scroll 12 Varsity Club 9, 10, 11

Michael Dobos



Jessica Domanski
Jaimie Lyn Drummond
Color Guard 12 Track 12

Melody Elkins
DECA 11, 12 (Secretary) 12 Math Bowl 12 FCCLA 9
International Club 9

Brianna Erwin
Dylan Etheridge
Eric Falkner
Matthew Ficht

Swimming 10, 11, 12 Academic A-S State, Academic
All American, Golf 10, 11, 12, National Honor
Society 12, Choir 9, 10, 11

Ryan Fisch

Megan Gale

Drama 9, 10, 11, 12 Student Council 9, 11, 12 National
Honor Society 11, 12 Choir 9, 10, 11, 12 (Choirale 12)
International Club 9, 10, 11, 12 (Vice President 11,
12) SADD 9, 10, 11, 12 (President 12) Class Council
9, 10, 11, 12 Bowling Team 9, 10, 11 Softball 9, 10, 11

Art Garcia

Football 9, 10, Baseball 9, 10, Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12
9, 10, 11, 12 (Choirale 12) International Club 10,
11, 12 Class Council 10, 11, 12 (Vice President 10,
President 12)

Stephanie Garcia

Kaitlyn Gilbert

Skylar Gilman

Robert Gonzales

David Gonzalez

Nicholas Goode

Matthew Grahovac

DECA 11, 12 Sport bowl 9, 10, 11, 12 Academic
Bowls 9, 10, 11, 12 Science Olympiad 10, 11
National Honor Society 10, 11, 12 Cross Country
12 Wrestling 9

Steven Gronkiewicz

Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12 Bowling Team 10, 12 Bowling
Club 9, 10, 11, 12 Track 9, 10

Holli Haager

Track 11, 12 Yearbook 12 Bowling Club 12 Art
Club 11, 12

Nicole Hamill

Reflector (Business Manager 9, 10, 11, 12) Band 9,
10, 11, 12 DECA 12

Cody Hamilton

Tyler Hamilton

Anthony Hanlon

Tennis 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 11, 12) Swimming 11
Football Manager 9

Jessica Hermosillo

Brooke Hobbs

Dustin Holycross

Laura Hurdish

Panther Press 12 National Honor Society 11, 12
Student Council 11, 12 Class Council 11, 12 Soccer
9, 10, 11, 12 Band 9, 10 Hooper Girls State
Delegate

Sarah Hurdish

Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 12) Band 9, 10, 11, 12
(Head Drum Major 11, 12) National Honor Society
11, 12 Student Council 11, 12 Class Council 11, 12

Daniel Huzzie

Ashwaq Issa

Lindsay Johnson

Kelly Jones

Panther Press 10, 11, 12 (Captain 12) Booster
Club 10, 11, 12 (President 12) Class Council 10,
11, 12 Choir 9, 10, 11, 12 (Choirale 12) Football
Water Girl 9



what song describes your senior year?

"My Kind of Party"

by: Jason Aldean

-Courtney
Massa, 12

"We Are Who We Are"

by: Ke\$ha

-Jessica
Hermosillo, 12

"The Show Goes On"

by: Lupe Fiasco

-Marcell
Cotton, 12

"Laughed Until We Cried"

by: Jason Aldean

-Jayce
Lagestee, 12

"Drop the World"

by: Lil' Wayne

-Quinette Craig-
Garland, 12

"Amarillo Sky"

by: Jason Aldean

-Daniel
Huzzie, 12



in the lunchroom, seniors Katie Cahill and Laura Hurdish wait anxiously for the bell to ring. "Our lunch is always so crowded," said Hurdish, "We barely have any room to eat most of the time."

Carefully taking out a hot pan from the oven, senior Emily Reba makes sure not to burn herself. "I love foods class because we get to make a lot of really good food, even though sometimes I get scared when I take stuff out of the oven," said Reba.

Using a steady hand, senior Art Garcia precisely places a CD on the senior classes' Homecoming float. "There were a lot of seniors that showed up to help. I was really happy with the turnout," said Garcia.

To celebrate the basketball Senior night, seniors Ed Johnson, Tyrell Tinnin, Richie Zakrzewski, Calvin Bonewits, and Jonathan Acevedo went to Bridge's Score Board for dinner. "We were there to celebrate being seniors and it was also Coach [Justin] Fronk's sons birthday, so we sang to him and got him cupcakes," said Johnson.



Kyle Jursic
Jaime Keller

Drama 5, 10, 11, 12 (Stage Manager 10, 11,
12) Booster Club 9 Bowling Club 9, 10, 11, 12
International Club 9, 10, 11, 12 (President 12)

Dontrell Kelly
Daniel Kime

Joshua Kisfalusi
Student Council 9, 10, 11, 12 (Vice President 11,
President 12) Class Council 10, 11, 12 (President
11) NHS 11 12 Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 11, 12)
(Academic All State 11, 12) Golf 11, 12 (Baseball 9, 10
DECA 11, 12 JETS team 11, 12 Soccer Olympiad 10,
11 Academic Superbowls 9, 10, 11, 12 (Math Captain
11, 12) Panther Press 12

Courtney Koleski

Bowling team 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 11, 12)
National Honor Society 11, 12 Bowling Club 9,
10, 11, 12 Varsity Club 9, 10, 11, 12 FCLA 9, 10,
11, 12 Booster Club 9, 10, 11, 12 Stage Crew 9, 10
Choir 9, 10, 11

Jayce Lagestee

Alyssa Lanting

Color Guard 10, 11, 12 (Captain 12) Swimming
9, 10, 11, 12 Student Council 8, 10, 11, 12 Class
Council 9, 10, 11, 12 National Honor Society 11,
12 Band 9, 10, 11, 12 Choir 9, 10, 11, 12 (Chorus
12) SADD 11, 12 (President 12) Soccer 9, 10
DECA 11, 12

Alex Latronica

Keith Lidster

Bowling Club 10, 11, 12 (3rd Place 11, 1st Place
12) Tennis 12 Spell Bowl 10, 11, 12 (3rd Place 10,
2nd Place 11, 2nd Place 12) Fine Arts Academic
Superbowl 11, 12 (Captain 12) Student Council 12

Julian Lopez-Hernandez

Samantha Marker

Volleyball 9, 10, 11, 12 Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12
(Captain 12) Track 9, 10, 11 (Captain 9, 10, 11)
National Honor Society 11, 12 Student Council 9,
10, 11 Class Council 9, 10, 11, 12

Cortney Massa

Choir 9, 10, 11, 12 (Chorus 12)

Jasmine Mata

Ashley Matthews

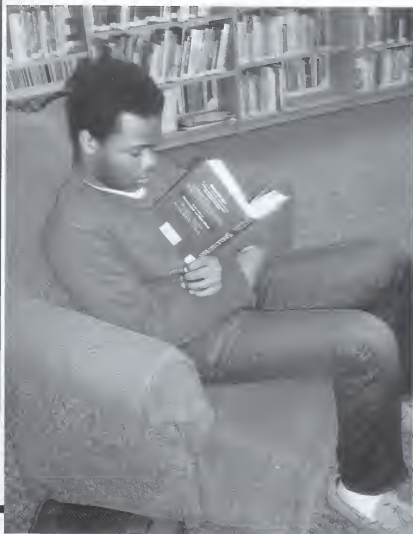


Relaxing while in English class with a substitute teacher, senior Steven Gronkiewicz talks with fellow senior Marcell Cotton. "When we have a substitute in class, we usually don't do any work," said Gronkiewicz.



Senior Brian Jones loves to stop in the library to catch up on some reading. "During my aide hour, I sometimes go to the library, pick out a new book, and read," said Jones.

In the spirit of Homecoming, seniors Elizabeth Bancardi and Eric Bean dress up for Nerd Day. "I never usually dress up for spirit week, but it's my senior year so I thought, 'Why not?'" said Bean.



what will you miss most about senior year?

"I'm going to miss the **delicious lunches** the most here at GHS. My favorite part of the day is lunch."

-David Baldazo, 12



"I'm definitely going to miss **seeing all my friends everyday** and hanging out with them during the day."

-Daniel Kime, 12



"I'm going to miss going to **sporting events and cheering** on all the teams."

-Kaitlyn Gilbert, 12



Casey McDaniel



Samantha McInerney

Student Council 9, 10, 11, 12 Secretary 11, Vice President 12) Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 10) National Honor Society 11, 12 Booster Club 11 Reflector 10, 11, 12 (Student Life Editor 12) Class Council 9, 10, 11, 12 (President 10) The Edge 11 From Queen 11



Megan McVicker

International Club 9, 10, 11, 12 DECA 11, 12 (Treasurer) Concert Band 9, 10, 11, 12 (Principal Player 9, 10, 11, 12) Pep Band 9, 10, 11, 12 National Honor Society 11, 12 Hooper Girls' State Delegate 11 Science Olympiad 11, 12 Rotary Youth Leadership 10 Class Council 11 FCCLA 10 Spirit Squad 11 42 Americanism and Government Test State Winner 11 Mathematics Competition 11 FFA 10 The Edge 10 ISSAA 9, 10, 11, 12 Marching Band 9, 10, 11, 12 (Section Leader 11, 12)



Christopher Melton

Football 10, 11, 12 Soccer 10 Student Council 10, 11, 12 (Treasurer 11, 12) Track 11, 12 Drama 10, 11, 12 Choir 9, 10, 11, 12 (Chorus 12) Class Council 11, 12



Maricarmen Meraz



Matthew Mercer

Rachel Mierzwa Swimming 9, 10, 11, 12 Soccer 9, 10 FCCLA 10 Booster Club 9, 10, 11, 12 International Club 12 Choir 9, 10 The Edge 12

Danny Miller
Cody Modglin



Alexis Morikis

Golf 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 11, 12) Swimming 9, 10, 11
Student Council 9 Booster Club 9, 10, 11, 12

Derek Moseley**Kyle Mull****Nicky Nunez****Brian Orzechowicz**

Wrestling 9, 10, 11 (Captain 12) National Honor Society
11, 12 Turnabout Prince 10 Prom Court 11 Homecoming
Court 12

**Lauren Paprocki****Ashley Parish****Lindsay Pierce**

Tennis 10, 11, 12 FCCLA 9, 10 International Club 9, 10, 11,
12 Choir 9, 10

Zach Pirtle**Christopher Plucinski**

Football 9, 10, 11 Bowling 12, 11, 12 (Sectional 12) Choir 9,
10, 11, 12 (Chorus 12) Bowling Club 10, 11, 12

**Nicole Poole****Kristen Pospychala**

Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 10) Class Council 10, 11, 12
(Secretary 12) Reflector 11, 12 (Co-Photo Editor 12) Booster
Club 9, 10, 11, 12 National Honor Society 12 Student Council
11 International Club 9, 10

Gabrielle Powell

SADD 10, 11, 12 (Secretary 11) Booster Club 12 FCCLA 11, 12
(Asst. Secretary 11, Secretary 12) Academic Super Bowl 11
International Club 12

Katie Ranck

Volleyball 9, 10

Emily Reba**Zachary Reed****Taylor Reitz**

Soccer 9, 10 Booster Club 9, 10, 11 Class Council 10, 11, 12
Turnabout Court 10 Prom Court 11 Homecoming Court 12

Jordan Rex**Ryan Riggle****Billy Rogers****Imani Ross**

GHS Band 9, 10, 11, 12 Color guard 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain
12) Tennis 9, 11

Brittney Sanders

Volleyball 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 12) Choir 9, 10 FCCLA 12
SADD 12 Prom Court 11 Homecoming Queen 12

Anna Schell

DECA 9, 10, 11, 12 (President 11, 12, Secretary 10) National
Honor Society 11, 12 (Treasurer 12) Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12
(Captain 12) Class Council 11, 12

Amanda Schreiber**Cassie Shanks****Luis Silva****Collin Slagle****Brianna Smith****Vannessa Smith****Lindsey Sopetti**

Volleyball 9, 10, 11, 12 (Academic All-State 12) Tennis 9, 10,
11, 12 Drama 9, 11, 12 National Honor Society 11, 12 Choir 9,
10, 11, 12 (Chorus 12) Class Council 11, 12 Hoosier Girls State
11 National Merit Pretest 12 D&B Good Citizen Award 12
Americanism and Government Test State Winner 10 ACES 9
FCCLA 10 Dunes Volleyball 9, 10, 11





Seniors Nelisa Caraballo and Matthew Butkus read a magazine in finance class. "I think finance class is really boring and I would much rather be in AP Spanish class because Mr. Ford always makes me laugh," said Caraballo.

Falling asleep in class, senior Tyler Coglianese attempts to read *Link Spell* in English. "English definitely isn't my favorite class, I'd rather be at the Career Center," said Coglianese. At the Career Center, he's taking a class to become a culinary chef.



talk vs. text

out of 50 seniors asked, 26% said talk on the phone and 74% said text



"I like talking on the phone because I don't like waiting for texts."
-Lillian Cedano, 12



"Texting is much easier and I don't have to talk to the person."
-Derek Revis, 12

"I like to talk on the phone because my phone sends my messages hours later."
-Zack Thomas, 12

"I like texting because it is easier and I can talk to more than one person at once."
-Amanda Schreiber, 12



thing i wish i had known when...

...i joined the basketball team

"I didn't think practices were going to be that hard and how hard I would have to try."

-Richie Zakrzewski, 12

...i joined Drama

"All the seniors are very close, and I wish I had known some of them to fit in more."

-Elizabeth Biancardi, 12

...i was a freshman

"I should of actually tried in high school."

-David Arndt, 12

...i took Biology II

"I wish I had known how many projects and presentations there were going to be. They require a lot of time and effort."

-Kristyn Cannon, 12

...i joined the military

"I wish I had known that the National Guard was going to take out my pay bonus."

-Dustin Holycross, 12

While in English class with a substitute teacher, seniors Dorrrell Kelly and Ari Lowe listen to an iPod to pass the time. "We were listening to Lady Antebellum's 'Run to You'. They are one of my favorite bands," said Lowe.

Michelle Sopetti

Drama 5, 10, 11, 12 (Theater) 10, 11, 12 (Vice President) 12 Volleyball 9, 10, 11, 12 (Co-Captain) 10 (Academic All-State) 12 Tennis 9, 10, 11, 12 (Choir) 9, 10, 11, 12 (Chorus) 12 (Hockey) 9, 10, 11, 12

Brandon Soy

Zachary Spires

Drama 12 DECA 12 Social Studies Superintendent 11, 12 Golf 10, 11, 12

Jeremy Starks

Panther Press 9, 10, 11, 12 (Editor-in-Chief) 12 Swimming 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 Drama 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 (Two Star Theater) 10, 11, 12 (President) 12 Panther Council 11 From King 11

James Steinhubel

Tennis 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain) 12 Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12 Golf 9, 10, 11, 12

Taylor Surowiec

Cheerleading 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain) 12 (Booster Club) 9, 10, 11, 12 Drama 11, 12

Tim Takacs

Amanda Tatge

Melissa Thrall

Jeff Tinich

Cross Country 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain) 11, 12 (Bowling) 10, 11, 12 (Captain) 12 (Choir) 9, 10, 11, 12 (Chorus) 12 Panther Press 11, 12 (Sports Editor) 12 Track & Golf 10

Sara Torres

Tennis 10, 11, 12 Swimming & Diving 11 Wrestling Manager 12 FCLA 11, 12 (Booster Club) 11 Art Club 12

Cody Tripp

Brooke Trueblood

Pantherettes 9, 10, 11, 12 Class Council 10, 11, 12 (Vice President) 11, 12 Student Council 11, 12 (Reflector) 10, 11, 12 (Student Life Editor) 12 Turnabout Princess 10 From Court 11 Homecoming Court 12 (Booster Club) 9, 10, 11, 12

Kylee Ullm

Drama 9, 10, 11, 12 (Theater) 11, 12 (Cheerleading) 9, 10, 11 (Booster Club) 9, 10, 11, 12 Class Council 11, 12 Student Council 9, 10 FCLA 9, 10, 11 International Club 9, 10, 11 Choir 9, 10, 11, 12 (Chorus) 12

Kyle Uylaki

Seth Verbich

Tyler Vestal

Kelsey White

Megan Wilbert

Brent Williams

Tyler Wilson

Andrea Yeager

Clarence Young

Danielle Zaeistowski





Richie Zakrzewski
Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12 Baseball 9, 10, 11 Varsity Club 10, 11

Amy Zellers
Art Club 12 Bowling Club 9, 10, 11, 12 (Chorus 12)
DECA 12 Tennis 10, 11, 12

Joe Zuniga



"Spanish is tough because you have to actually know what you're doing. But Mr. Ford is very funny and makes learning interesting by making jokes to help us remember," said senior James Steinhubel while taking notes from his text book.

After writing a challenging pre-calculus problem on the chalkboard, senior Quinette Garland said, "The best part about reviewing on the chalkboard is knowing that you understand the work, and you get an extra credit point."



While relaxing in Dan Santori's class, senior Logan Bocock takes the time to listen to his iPod. "I can listen to my iPod in Mr. Santori's class, but the best part about being a senior is that we're about to get out of here," said Bocock.

Guided by his partner Matthew Butkus, senior Brandon Soy walks down the hallway blindfolded for a psychology assignment. "I waited for this activity all year and I liked the assignment because I got to judge the people who ran into walls," said Soy.

when the SENIORS were freshmen...

- | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|---|------|------|------|------|
| 1. pockets were allowed | | | | |
| 2. cookies were 25 cents | | | | |
| 3. ranch steak was on the menu | | | | |
| 4. George W. Bush was president | | | | |
| 5. lunch cost \$1.80 | | | | |
| 6. the three finger rule was not in effect | | | | |
| 7. varsity club was a club | | | | |
| 8. there was no AP Spanish, AP History, AP Art History, AP Government | | | | |
| 9. there was B and C lunch instead of B and D | | | | |
| 10. people were allowed to smile in their license pictures | | | | |



Eeryn Abram
Samantha Aguilar
Cristina Aldape
Brittany Anderson
Josh Ashenbaugh



Amber Atkins
Erik Augustyn
Ryan Avalos
Mallory Baccino
Caitlin Bailey

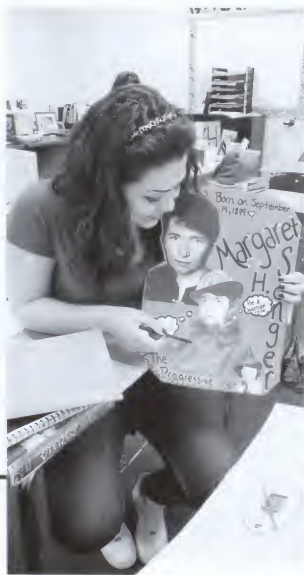


Nathan Bailey
Amanda Bakko
Jordanne Banas
Tyler Barron
Brianna Bias



Dancing at the girls' basketball regional championship game, juniors Garrett Litke and Robert Fleishman wait with senior Calvin Bonewits for the game to start. "The girls lost, but they played a really aggressive game," said Litke.

While all the other football players sported mohawks, junior Josh Bodnar's hair style was slightly different. "We were shaving each others heads, and I thought I was getting a mohawk, but they played a prank on me," said Bodnar.



In Luann Pramuk's AP history class, junior Cristina Aldape introduces herself to the class as Margaret Sanger. "I enjoyed the project because it was interesting learning about Margaret Sanger," said Aldape.





5 things you wish you did this summer

"I wish I would've gone parasailing."
Michelle Lesniewski, 11

"I wish I would've gone to Disney World."
Brianna Nelson, 11

"I wish I would've gone skydiving."
Zach Muller, 11

"I wish I would have traveled more."
Gianni Rivera, 11

"I wish I would've gone to Mexico and kissed a Mexican in the rain."
Megan Tuttle, 11



Ryan Biegel
Katie Blair
Vanessa Blankenship
Lisa Blaski



Ryan Bluhm
Josh Bodnar
Kelsey Bonewits
Elizabeth Booker



Deonta Bramlett
Stephanie Brandner
Brooke Brinkley
Ashley Brown



Nick Brummet
Timothy Bullard
Tiffany Burbridge
Melinda Burk



Josilyn Byers
Anton Calvert
Jeremy Camp
Justin Camp



José Cartagena
Alyssa Carter
Margaret Cartwright
Priscilla Caudillo

Joshua Chalifoux
Christa Chavez
Donte Christopher
Sarah Clark
Edward Clay
Brandon Cole
Adele Cox



Rhiannon Cox
Ellison Cullen
Aisha Darrough
Paris Davenport
Cody Davidson
James Davidson
Shelby Day



Alyssa Delgado
Morgan Dillon
Niki Dittich
Vershe' Dixon
Ben Domanski
Alice Duhon
Kylah Eatman



Jamesha Estell
Amanda Falcon
Shi Fassoth
Cole Felde
Ted Fitzgerald
Robert Fleishman
Rachelle Fogarty



Austin Foster
Jasmine Fox
Shawn Gallina
Rachel Garastik
Stephan Gartman
Olivia Gates
Jillian Gautreaux



Jimmy Gaydos
Skylar Gilman
Holley Glascoff
Lucas Glass
Adriana Gonzalez
Jessica Goodson
Kyle Gora



Ryan Graan
Daniel Gross
Sarah Guistoli
Bashar Haddad
Rae' Shawn Hagler-Jackson
Stacie Hansen
Clarissa Hardy



Courtney Hargis
Whitney Harwell
Riley Henderson
Raleigh Hinkle
Donald Hoover
Tina Horton
Kody Hosen



Preparing the dough for cinnamon scones, junior Jolisa Muex begins to make her yummy treat. "My favorite lab was when our class made quesadillas for our Mexican food unit," said Muex.



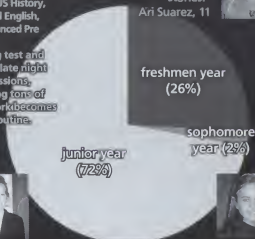
junior class struggles

strug•gle (n.)

1. The challenges students face during their third year of high school.
2. These classes consist of AP Biology, AP US History, advanced English, and advanced Pre Calculus.
3. Taking test and quizzes, late night study sessions, and doing tons of homework becomes a daily routine.

"The hardest class freshman year for me was English. Our most difficult assignments were essay stories."

Ari Suarez, 11



"The science fair was the most difficult project we had to do in Bio II. The whole class is really fast paced and it means more because its worth dual credit."

Amanda Bakko, 11



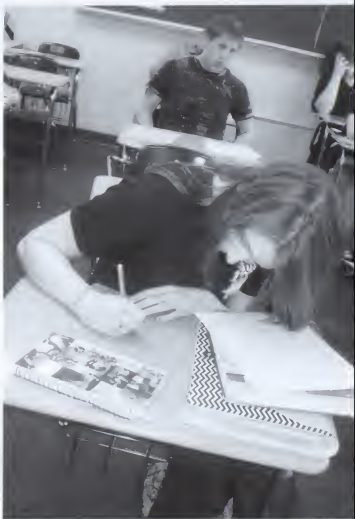
"Geometry was my most difficult class during sophomore year. I had a rough start and I just couldn't understand geometric proofs."

Catena Root, 11



The lunch period allows students to have some time to relax and not worry about stressful school work. "The best part of lunch is not having classes during that period," said junior Jeremy Soy.

The Geometry Flip Class, which repeats semesters of geometry, was working on Related Conditional Statements. One of the students, junior Brittany Anderson starts class by working on the warm up. "So far the class has been really easy and I understand it really well," said Anderson





At the Hammond Career Center students have the opportunity to explore different career choices. "At Career Center, I fix up cars, but next year I'm thinking about going to the construction class to pursue a career," said junior Josh Ashenbaugh.

In FCCLA, juniors Alyssa DelGado and Amber Atkins help sort out T-shirts. "We were just helping out Mrs. Roades and sorting the shirts for FCCLA. It was really cool because we got to see the FCCLA shirts before anyone else," said DelGado.



*you would
never
believe...*

66% juniors have forged
their parent's signatures

68% juniors have snuck
out

52% juniors have stolen
something

44% juniors have gotten
in trouble with the
police

88% juniors have
cheated on a test

94% juniors have texted
in class

While eating in B lunch, juniors Kelsey Bonewits, Rachel Solar, and Alejandra Tellez relax and unwind from class. "The best part about lunch is story time. But it was awesome during Homecoming week when everybody got up and danced," said Tellez.





Breona Huff
Kendall Jenkins
Manuel Jeronimo
Briana Jones
Kanesha Jones
Michael Kent
Joel Kepchar

Peter Kiel
Elizabeth Kras
Kyle Kronland
Nicholas Kudypa
Lisa Korpela
Jenny Lanfear
Kelly Lannin

Kalie Lastagarkov
Colin Lavolette
Cody Lejeune
Joseph Lemke
Cali Lemus
Megan Lesniewski
Michelle Lesniewski

Garrett Litke
Tori Louviere
Avery Malerich
Steven Malone
Natasha Martin
Leslie Martinez
Nicholas Mazur

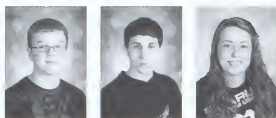
Keelia McDaniel
Brittini McLemore
Nathan McNeill
Alexander Mendoza
Lee Mercer
Alysia Metsch
Dillon Metsch

Marris Mihalick
Melissa Miller
Quincy Moore
Amelia Morales
John Morikis
Tyler Morrison
Jolisa Muex

Zach Muller
Marisa Mureiko
Brianna Nagel
Mark Nellenman
Brianna Nelson
Alyssa Niewiadomski
Ashley Noojin

Kenneth Norsweather
Jerry Nowak
Agnes O' Brien
Andrew O' Brien
Chloe Oliver
Desiree Perkovich
Lesley Pietsch

Ean Plude
Steven Ramirez
Nikki Rapka



Sherraid Ray
Benjamin Reitz
Billie Reitz



Mark Rex
Jianni Rivera
Katelyn Roberts



Alyssa Robertson
Catena Root
Gregory Rothchild



Amy Russell
Hope Ryan
Janessa Salinas



Tiffany Sanders
Alejandra Sandoval
Shanaizha Scheeringa



William Scheffel
Jake Schnoor
Sarah Shaffer



Jazmine Shaw
Andy Short
Omar Silva
Adrienne Simpson
Shae Siokos
Jessica Smith
Rachel Solar





Just passing the time by, juniors Ashley Brown and Billie Reitz sit during class talking and studying for their test. "I was helping Billie and others study for the upcoming color test in interior design," said Brown.

Happily serving pizza to raise money for FCCLA, junior Chances' Walker gives the next customer their change for purchasing pizza. "The only bad part is that your hands sweat in the gloves and you have to wear a hair net," said Walker.



junior year checklist



"One thing would be to go to state for track."

Eeryn Abram, 11



"I want to finish a poetry manuscript and get it ready to publish."

Olivia Gates, 11



"I want to go to Disney World before my senior year."

Donald Hoover, 11



"I want to get all my credits and continue my goal of graduating with academic honors."

Morgan Dillon, 11



"I want to get a new job before the year ends."

Ben Domanski, 11

Dressing up for AP US history, junior Robbie Megguier and Zach Muller pretend to be famous people from the past, who are meeting for the first time. "I was dressed up as Louis Brandeis. I received extra credit and got to learn about the progressive era," said Megguier.



Vicki Solivais
Jeremy Soy
Allen Spejewski
Emily Stack
Nicholas Stassin
Taylor Steffan
Robert Stevens

David Stokes
Ariana Suarez
Brittany Sullivan
Sarah Sutherland
Kimmeisha Syas
Robbie Szabo
Maciek Szczepkowski



Janessa Tamez
Ciara Taylor
Kelsey Taylor
Jennifer Teasdale
Alejandra Tellez
Tabatha Thiel
Kentrell Thomas



Emilee Trueblood
Justin Turner
Megan Tuttle
Joe Vacklavik



Carlton Valliant
Miguel Valtierra
Crystal Vanwhite
Seth Verbich

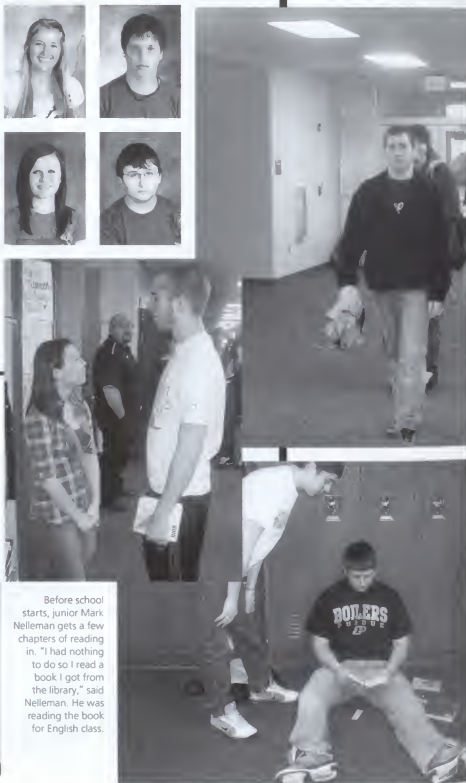


Katalina Villalpando
Hanna Vrabely



Listening to music on top of a garbage can in the "L Cove" is junior Ryan Grant. "Usually my friends and I switch turns on who sits there," said Grant. Grant and his friends always get told to get off the garbage cans, but sit on them anyway.

At their lockers during passing period are juniors Shi Fassoth and Robert Megquier. "We only have one class together all day so we take advantage of passing period and lunch," said Megquier.



Before school starts, junior Mark Nellenman gets a few chapters of reading in. "I had nothing to do so I read a book I got from the library," said Nellenman. He was reading the book for English class.



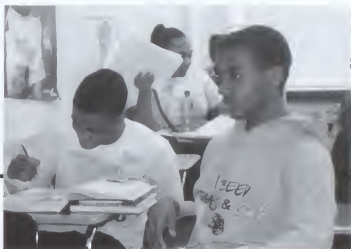


Chance 'S Walker
George Walker
Garrett Walter
Morgan White
Robyn Williams
Andre Windmon
Emily Witvoet

Nicole Witzke
Julianne Witt
Troy Yarnelle
Tyler Yost
Jordan Zarndt
Jessica Zubik
Ryan Zubrick

Just before school started, juniors Tyler Barron and Leslie Martinez walk into school together. "I was laughing because Barron said something that was really funny," said Martinez. Martinez drove Barron to school that day.

Known for being funny, junior Edward Clay always tells stories during English class. "I love that class because a lot of my friends are in it including Anton [Calvert]," said Clay. Clay and Calvert are constantly being told to quiet down during their classes together.



question & answer with **Nick Kudyba, 11**

If you could....



Q. have one superhero power what would it be and why?

A. "To be invincible, because I would be unstoppable."

Q. have three wishes what would your first wish be and why?

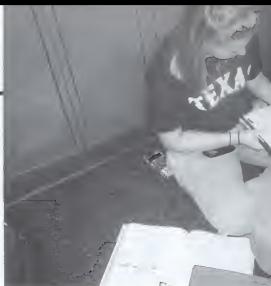
A. "To have infinity wishes so that I could wish for anything I ever wanted."

Q. meet one professional athlete who would it be and why?

A. "Lance Armstrong because he is such a great athlete and is just awesome."



Using the extra time at the end of class, sophomore Blaire Gearhart finishes up her chemistry homework. "I love the extra time because it gives me a chance to catch up on homework," said Gearhart. Emily O'Brien, science, almost always gives her students free time to do what ever they desire.



Alisondra Acevedo
Caylee Adams
Samantha Adams
Jesus Aldape
Bri-Anne Andriessen
Christy Anzur



Joseph Armstrong
Taylor Austin
Kristian Ayala
Taylor Backe
Victoria Bacon
Miranda Baeza



Destiny Barajas
Tanner Barham
Jevon Bell
Chris Benko
Emma Blackard
William Bogan



Patrick Bolda
Tjeie Bonaparte
Brandon Botkin
Devon Bramlett
Katie Bridges
Brett Brinkley



Austin Brown
Caitlin Brown
Brandon Brummet
Kortland Bryant
Willetra Caldwell
Ryan Camp



Julian Cartagena
Anthony Carter
Manon Carter
Robert Cheek
Caitlin Christenson
Adam Cioroianu



most *significant* accomplishment so far in **high school** was....

At her locker before class started in the morning is sophomore Manon Carter. "I come in early to school almost every morning and sit in front of my locker to do homework I haven't finished," said Carter. Carter arrives at school every morning at around 7:20 a.m.



"My 3.8 cumulative GPA."
Matt Seiluns, 10

"Getting straight A's every quarter so far."
Jeanette Sakazar, 10

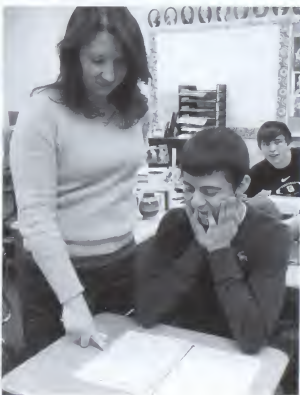


"Making the J.V. softball team freshman year"
Chloe Norton, 10

"Benching 190 lbs in APC this year."
Jay Hicks, 10



With full concentration Brian Scheeringa begins to take notes in Sheila Vaclavik's, English class. "It's important to take good notes because it pays off when you have to study," said Scheeringa. In Scheeringa's hour it's also important to take notes because Vaclavik does not always give out study guides.



During the middle of class sophomore Anthony Carter asks Luann Pramuk, history, a question. "I almost never pay attention during class because my hour is so loud. Thankfully I have a wonderful teacher to help me get through class," said Carter. Pramuk usually offers time at the end of the hour for students to work on homework or ask questions.



Chugging down his Gatorade, sophomore Ben Parish enjoys his lunch. "Lunch is my favorite part of the day because I get to talk to friends without getting in trouble for it," said Parish. Lunch offers not only a chance to refuel your brain, but a chance to catch up with friends.

Sitting on sophomore Ross Myers desk is sophomore Steven Sharp. "Mrs. Pramuk is usually pretty cool and doesn't mind me being in her class," said Sharp. Sharp had foods that hour and was giving out the food he had made and ended up in Pramuk's room.

Miryea Cisneros
Ailey Clark
Miles Collins
Armando Cordova
Brian Corrie
Evelyn Creech
Tyjuan Culbreath



Mia Dalsanto
Jose Davila
Jake Dennison
Aminata Diallo
Alexander Diaz
Stephanie Disanto
Sean Downs



Kailie Drummond
Stephen Duhon
Cory Dunagan
Thomas Duncan
Julie Duvnjak
Kimberly Dye
Ann Ficht



Andrew Figueroa
Andrew Fowler
Sarah Galambos
Brandon Gale
Rashawn Gamble
Kaitlynd Gardner
Ashlan Gary



Blaire Gearhart
Maegan Glass
Joseph Golub
Lauren Gonzales
Jordan Gonzalez
Abigail Grabos
Zachary Grin



Sierra Gutierrez
Vivian Haddad
De'Andre Hampton
DeAndre Hannsberry
Al Hassan
Mercedes Hermosillo
Jessica Hicks



David Higgins
Daizja Hill
Rhiannon Hilliard
Alexander Holt
Jillian Holtzer
Kristianna Hosein
Leneta Howard



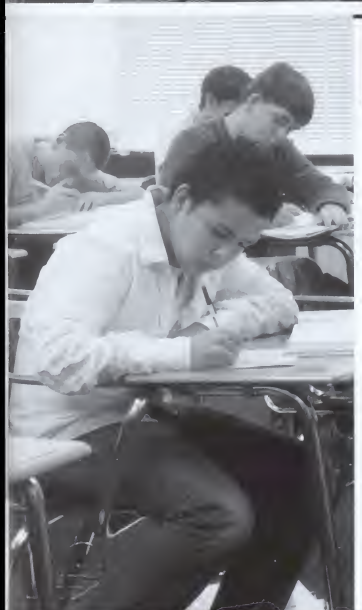
Angel James
Natalie Jancosek
Jackie Johns
Ellen Johnson
Darien Jones
Nathan Kahr
Matthew Kauchak





Preparing for their next class, sophomores Abigail Muffet, Deziree Walker, and Karis White study for a test. "I enjoy choir because it allows me to express myself in ways that just talking can't," said White.

In Sheila Vackevik's English classroom, the sixth hour sophomore class celebrates Edgar Allan Poe's birthday. "Everybody in the class got to bring in food and drinks for the party," said sophomore Allison Meece.



Working hard in his third hour English class, sophomore Khristian Ayala starts writing his outline for the play *Julius Caesar*. "It's difficult to understand what is going on in the play if you don't pay attention," said Ayala.

defining sophomores



"I would say I'm funny, because I can always get someone to smile on their worst days."

Taylor Louie, 10

"One word to describe me is shy since I don't talk to too many people at school."

Mathew Kitzmiller, 10



"I am very random. People never know what to expect when they are around me."

Anna Steinhubel, 10

"I'm helpful, because I always help other people with their homework."

Sean Downs, 10



Rachael Kazmer
Jack Kessey
Mathew Kitzmiller
David Koen
Derrick Kong
Jacob Koselke
Ciarra Kroslack



Thomas Kudyba
Amanda Kuiper
Sarah Kuna
Shannon*Kunka
Emily Kuzmanoff
Dylan Lambert
James Leslie



Nichole Lewis
Sydney Lidster
Emily Linders
Katelyn Lisle
Abbey Little
Richard Little
Jordan Long



Jacob Loomis
Fernando Lopez
Kassandra Lopez



Taylor Losiniecki
Taylor Louie
Kelsie Lunsford



Brittany Maglish
Patrick Mallard
Steven Marquez



Haley Marshall
Brandon Martin
Jackie Martinez



Melissa Martinez
Joseph May
Tiffany McDaniel





Making a coil pot in Jim Graff's ceramics class, sophomore Brian Corrie learns how to roll a slab. "I made the coil pot in ten minutes and I think ceramics is the best class in Griffith High School," said Corrie.



Sitting in Luann Pramuk's history class, sophomore Abbey Little works on her history homework. "I thought I wasn't going to like history, but it's actually one of my favorite classes," said Little.

In Eddie Covarrubia's third hour choir class, sophomore Alex Diaz plays the piano. "I was playing 'Great Balls Of Fire' and I think it is the easiest song I've ever played," said Diaz.



Ardy Duhon, 10



Jessica Loomis and Jamie Rex, 10



Bri-ann Anderson, 10



Jeanette Solaz and Myrka Gueiros, 10

Sarah McGivney
Cindy McInerney
Marcus McReynolds
Allison Meece
Alyssa Melchor
Krystal Mendoza
Emily Miltcheltree



Jackie Morales
Jodi Morales
Abigail Muffett
Amber Murphy
Ross Myers
DeOndre Nance
Eric Navarro



Preston Nelson
Allison Nolan
Lindsay Norrick
Chloe Norton
Miguel Nunez
Chris O'Brien
Lindsey Osborn



Janelle Owczarzak
Alex Page
Ashlyn Paris
Ben Parish
Tyler Pena
Ashley Pinkham
Chris Pirtle



spotlight on...

Jake Dennison, 10

paintball player during his free time

how long have you been paint balling?:
two years

how did you get started paint balling?:

My friends Brett [Brinkley] and Joseph [Golub] did because they took me with them when they went before and I thought it was a different sport to get involved in.

how often do you paint ball?:

Usually it's only during the summer and even then it is about 2-3 times a week.

where do you go?:

There is a course in my backyard that we built or sometimes we go to actual places.

who do you go with?:

I go with Brett Brinkley, Joseph Golub, and Chris Benko.

what equipment do you use?:

A mask to cover the face, a gun, paintballs, and pods, which are just loaders.

fun fact:

Everyone says getting hit hurts, but it really doesn't.



In an effort to make each other laugh, best friend sophomores Amanda Kuiper, Kristianna Hosein, and Evelyn Creech share stories during 8 lunch. "Good friends equals good laughs," said Creech.



While vigorously paying attention, sophomore Ciarra Kroslock listens to Emily O'Brien's Chemistry A lecture about balancing equations and learning how to do redox reductions. "I think her class is interesting because I like knowing what happens behind the reactions you actually see," said Kroslock.

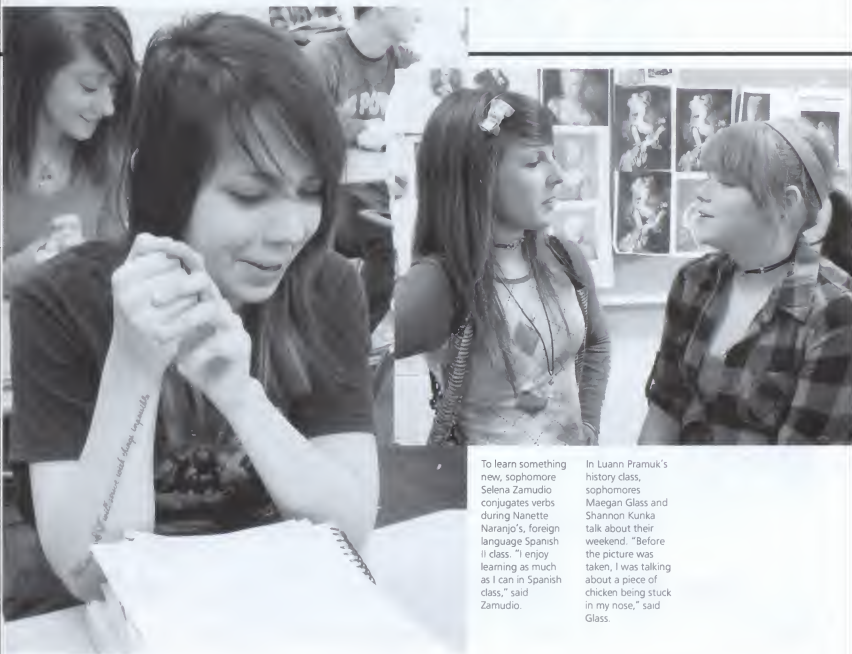




Brooke Pospychala
Kaitlin Ray
Kiara Reed
Jamie Rex
Jose Rivera
Keagan Rix
Forrest Ree

Nia Ross
Andrew Rothchild
Julia Saberniak
Erick Salazar
Jeanette Salazar
Esperanza Sanchez
Sabrina Santos

Brian Scheeringa
Chelsea Scofield
Alexandria Scoggins
Matthew Seiluns
Billy Sharp
Steven Sharp
Holly Shew



To learn something new, sophomore Selena Zamudio conjugates verbs during Nanette Naranjo's, foreign language Spanish II class. "I enjoy learning as much as I can in Spanish class," said Zamudio.

In Luann Pramuk's history class, sophomores Maegan Glass and Shannon Kunka talk about their weekend. "Before the picture was taken, I was talking about a piece of chicken being stuck in my nose," said Glass.

Chelsea Shinkle
Karina Silva



Jesse Smith
Melissa Smith



Telia Smith
Stefanie Soy



Joshua Steele
Anna Steinhubel



Nicholas Street
Deena Suboh
Ashley Summers



Ashley Thomas
Tyler Thomas
John Tibbs



Michelle Torres
Javier Urena
Michelle Urena



Maria Valladares
Sarah Velasquez
Anna Vogel



5 facts about Alyssa Gebo, 10



1 Her favorite movie is Love and Basketball.

Her biggest hero in her life is her Dad. **2**

3 Her favorite food to eat is macaroni and cheese.

She wants to visit the Leaning Tower of Pisa in Italy before she dies. **4**

5 She loves to rock climb and sled with her friends in the winter.





Deziree Walker
Christopher Waller
Anthony Ward
Joseph Washack
Patrick Weber
Stacy Weber
Karis White



Julian Wright
LaDarius Wyatt
Larell Wyatt
Jesse Yarnelle
Stephanie Younker
Selena Zamudio
Andrew Zarndt

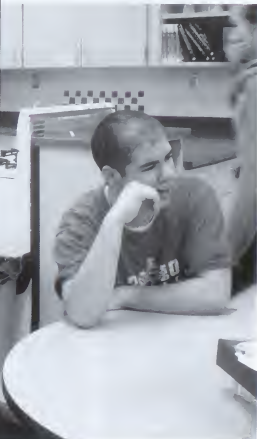


Sarah Zawistowski

Concentrating deep in class, sophomores Sarah Galambos and Rachael Kazmer take notes. "Taking notes in class helps me to understand things a lot better and makes it easier for me to learn," said Galambos.

Full of laughter in Lynn Roades foods class, sophomores Alex Page and Jose Davila talk things over about their cookie lab. "We were going over our responsibilities and duties for lab the next day," said Page.

While sitting in Russ Radtke's substance abuse class, sophomore Cory Dunagan plays a game on his iPod. "My favorite game is zombies vs. aliens," said Dunagan.



Ashley Adams
Christian Adams
Chandler Adkins
Armando Alcantar
Breanna Ally
Jasmine Alvarez
Michael Alvarez



Dominique Anderson
Ashley Arndt
Tara Arnold
Jonathon Baccino
Jessica Bahena-Alvarez
Charles Ballard
Jordan Baltus



Demetrius Barnes
Rosemary Bartochowski
Brianne Basham
Kathryn Baum
Jazmine Bell
Darius Berry
Victoria Brewer



Dakota Broelmann
Amy Bubala
Kyle Buikema
Lauren Bytnar
Lisa Calvillo
Yadi Castellanos
Theresa Caudillo



Sitting in textiles class, freshman Kaitlyn Meyers completes worksheets during her free time. "If you want to go into a career in sewing, textiles is a great class to take," said Meyers.

In second hour, the choralettes prepare for the May concert. "Most people think that choir is just singing, but we also learn different techniques and musical terms," said freshman Rosemary Bartochowski.

During earth space science class, freshmen Guadalupe Gamino and Jared Lowe enjoy the science fair. "Some of the projects were actually interesting, and I learned a lot from them," said Gamino.



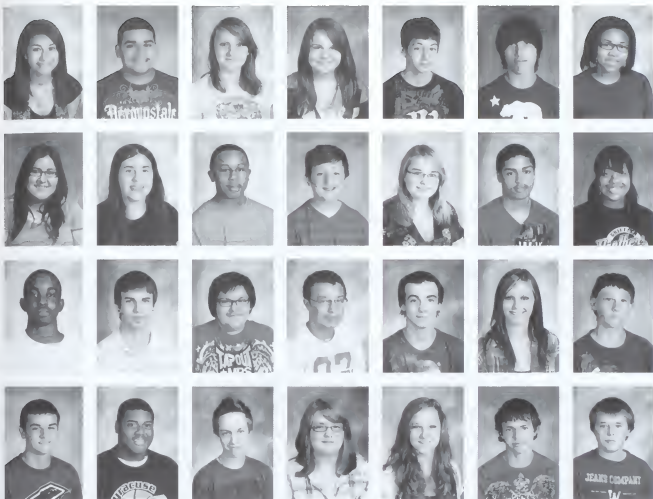
Brianne Basham, 9



Dominique Anderson, 9



Rosemary Bartochowski



Jacquelyn Chavez
Andres Chavez Jr.
Samantha Christenson
Daniele Cimmino
Michael Cocco
Matthew Colomes
Arnetia Commings

Alexys Corona
Cori Cox
Khali Craig-Garland
Matthew Csonka
Jody Cunningham
Joseph Dalton
Bobbi Davis

Darreyl Deberry
Levi Degand
Ezekiel Del Val
Michael Delpino
Logan Denny
Jenna Derolf
Brandon Dickey

Daniel Dittich
Tyler Douglas
Vid Dragutinovic
Kristen Drozd
Emily Duhon
Ryan Dunlap
Tyler Dunlap

How to *survive* freshmen year



"Do all the homework and be prepared, because high school is way more difficult than middle school."

Sara Joyce, 9



"It helps if you make a good impression and stay on the good side of your teachers."

Luke Smith, 9



"Being organized is important to what assignments need to be done."

Paige Obermeyer, 9



"If you just do your homework and do what you have to do, then everything will be fine."

Jonathan Madrigal, 9



Dressed up as a football player, freshman Allyson Krainak and Faith York stop to take a break from trick or treating. "After trick or treating, we went to a bonfire and made s'mores," said Krainak.

WILL
XIDE

ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION

Brandon Dyer
Chance Edwards
Ruben Escalante
Ricardo Esquivel
Zane Fassoth
Andrew Felde
Todd Fennell



Sara Fisch
Cecilia Flores
Samantha Fuller
Guadalupe Gamino
Shelby Gannon
Brandon Garcia
Megan Garcia



talking with a freshman!

name: Joshua Kime

when is your birthday?: May 1,
1996

interesting fact?: My parents
own Squigis' pizza

**how long has your family
owned Squigis'?:** It will be 11
years on November 1, 2011

**what if you owned Dunkin
Dounut's?:** I'd be really fat

what do you always do?: I
always have to sing everywhere I
go because I like to sing

favorite color?: green

favorite shoes?: Converse



Working on a mineral lab, freshmen Megan Zurawski, Michelle Gross, and Jaclyn Witzke try to help each other in Krystal Bandy's earth science class. "The mineral lab was the best lab we did this year," said Zurawski.

At the sewing machine, freshman Julie McCarthy was working on a tank top. "Sewing is entertaining and Mrs. Scheidel is really nice," said McCarthy.





In interior decorating, freshman Andrew Pelot was having colors match his skin and eye color. "I found out summer colors match my skin the best, and it was hilarious," said Pelot.

Working in the LGI, freshmen Tyler Dunlap, Aaron Mets, Zachary Ferrell, and Brooke Maglish watch a movie for earth science. "I thought the movie was boring, so I talked to my friends instead," said Dunlap.



To get through the remaining free time in English class, freshman Emily Duhon reads the *Panther Press*. "I do my homework or read the paper when there is free time in class," said Duhon.



While completing the model of DNA, freshman Da'Shauna Walker works independently in biology. "I actually like biology and I think DNA was the easiest chapter," said Walker.



Aaron Garza
Sarah Gates
Madeline Gee
Angela Genovesse
Lucas Gerald
Brandi Gerber
Robert Gillam



Monica Gonzales
Sydney Gonzales
Carlos Gonzalez
Ramon Gonzalez
Sergio Gonzalez
Kyle Gordon
Jordan Grady



Taryn Grin
Michelle Gross
Jawhara Haddad
Olivia Hamm

Brooke Haney
Stephanie Harpst
Shannon Hawkins
Lauren Hernandez
Yasmeen Hijazin
Sydney Hilbrich
Logan Hogue



George Hudiczius
Shelby Ingbreton
Michael Jackson



Cornelius Jemison
Tyrus Jenkins
Isaiah Jimenez



Deanna Johanson
Erick Johnson
Airrick Jones



Cecily Jones
Sara Joyce
Cameron Jung



**"energetic,
calm, &
athletic"**

Jordan Baltus, 9



**"best
soccer
player"**

Sergio Gonzalez, 9



**"smart,
neat, &
new"**

Cody Tucker, 9

one phrase that describes you!



**"intelligent,
caring, &
bubbly"**

Amy Bubala, 9



**"charming,
friendly, &
loud"**

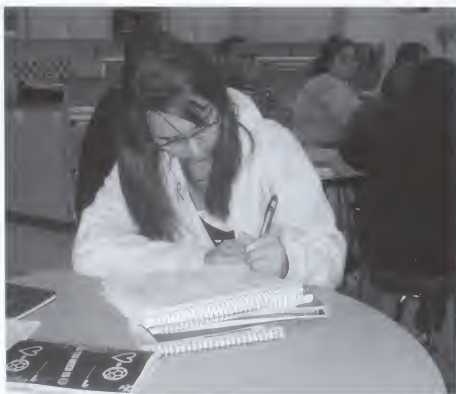
Tistin Hoadley, 9



**"friendly,
but
mean"**

Selena Garza, 9

Fully concentrated, Alana Vega writes down recipes for later. "Foods class made me consider possibly becoming a culinary chef or something in that area." The foods class taught by Lynn Roades is a great way for students to explore many types of foods from all different cultures.





Getting ready to perform, freshman Sara Joyce sprays hairspray on the bottom of freshman Sydney Hilbrich's shoes. "We use hair spray because the floor is slippery and the hairspray makes our shoes sticky so we don't slip," said Joyce.

Freshman Marisa Rios huddles with the rest of her classmates due to an unexpected fire drill in the cold weather. "I was really not expecting this at all. I wasn't prepared. The next day I got very sick," said Rios.



Cameron Kegebein



Maddie Kent



Abigail Kik



Joshua Kime



Kyle Koble



Sarah Koliboski
Allyson Krajnak
Courtney Laviolette
Kennedy Laviolette



Nicole Lear
Kati LeBrun
Andrea Leon
Dana Lesniewski



Rodney Lewis
Tyler Lipski
Andrew London
Nick Long



Relaxing from hard classes, freshman Breanna Ally sits at lunch with her classmates. "I love lunch. It's my favorite part of the day. The only thing I hate is having to wait in the long lines," said Ally.



Jared Lowe
Jonathan Madrigal
Brooke Maglish
Kamille Manning
Kyla Manning
Victoria Mares
Luis Martinez



Sara Maywald
Jessie Mazzone
Connor McCabe
Julie McCarthy
Aaron Metz
Kaitlyn Meyer
Malik Mitchell



Samantha Monko
Destiny Moore
Shakyla Moore
Alec Moseley
Courtney Muller
Sirena Nieves
Paige Obermeyer



Tristin Olsen
Katherine Ortosky
Tim Orzelski
Alicia Page
Tyler Palinca
Steven Paprocki
John Parker



To earn 30 points and bring her grade up, freshman Victoria Smith makes a strand of DNA in Mrs. Wendoff's class. "I took biology my freshman year so I could get it out of the way. Mrs. Wendoff is my favorite teacher," said Smith.





Andrew Pelot
Austin Peña
Jose Perez
Juan Perez
Rebecca Perez
Mark Plawecki
Marissa Ramirez



Cassandra Rardin
Nathan Reitz
Marisa Rios
Deshon Roberson
Rebecca Roberts
Skye Robinson
Alex Rodriguez



Lisette Roldan
Cassandra Root
Eric Rush
Breanna Sanchez
Rosio Sandoval
Nicholas Scally
Camesha Scheeringa



Jeanne Scheffel
David Schell
Brienna Schramm
Dion Seiluns
Alexis Singer
Aleia Smith
Luke Smith



In Pat Sadler's beginners painting class, freshman Sarah Vrabely paints for three extra credit points. "I like to work with bright colors, but I'm a messy painter," said Vrabely.



During lunch, freshmen Brandon White and Todd Fenell share their fun times from seventh grade while eating in the cafeteria. "After lunch, I still felt hungry," said White.

what does "freshman" mean to you?

freshman (n.)

"The first gateway to adulthood; a chance to make friends that I know will last forever."

-Juan Perez, 9



Ross Smith
Victoria Smith
Emily Solar



Karley Spriggs
Robert Stack
Kevin Stevens



Zachary Stickley
Brian Stinnett
Shadeja Syas



Morgan Szot
Brittany Takacs
Carlos Tellez



Amy Thiel
Terrence Tompkins
Thomas Tompkins



Aaron Tonkovich
Tessa Trueblood
Cody Tucker



On March ninth freshman Dana Lesniewski participated in a fashion show held in the auditorium to raise money for the cheer fund. "We all bonded at the end of the season," said Lesniewski. Her favorite part was modeling the dresses.

Standing in the lunchroom during B Lunch, freshmen Jordan Grady and Erick Johnson talk about their upcoming basketball game. "We've been friends for about three years," said Grady. The Panthers won the game that night.



Emily Tuttle
Sabrina Vanwhite
Alana Vega
Devin Vestal
Melissa Vieyra
Sarah Vrabely
Jacy Vuckovich



Cameron Walker
Da' Shauna Walker
Brandon White
Dominque Whitehorn
Christian Wilson
Nicholas Wilson
Quinton Wilson





To earn an art credit, freshman Jessica Bahena-Alvarez paints a tree in Pat Sadler's, art, fifth hour, second semester painting class. Bahena-Alvarez took the class with an interest in painting. "You can express yourself in the paintings and be creative," said Bahena-Alvarez.



While at Midwest Training and Ice Center for a gym class field trip, freshmen Kyle Gordon and Jonathon Baccino played hockey. "My favorite part was being able to push people," said Gordon.

freshmen firsts... for Emily Tuttle, 9

"I went to St. Mary's so it was my first time doing a lot of stuff when I came to Griffith."

1. seven subjects with seven teachers
2. having a locker
3. attending Homecoming and Turnabout dances
4. varsity volleyball team manager
5. standing up in a Quinceañera
6. no uniforms
7. sports tryouts



Cole Wimmer
Jaclyn Witzke
Faith York



Erica Yost
James Zuniga

spend·ing

(v): 1. To pay money throughout four years of high school for various things. School supplies, lunches, dances, school t-shirts, spirit wear and gas are just some of the personal expenses that students have to pay for.



lunch line



Amy Melnychuk, 11 and Cody Tripp, 12



Taylor Louie, 10



Melissia Martinez and Nicholas Goode, 12

Throughout high school, there are hundreds of expenses that either students or their parents had to pay for. Whether it was for t-shirts, field trips, spirit packs, lunch, or even gas money to get to and from school, spending money was imperative. In the summer, most sport teams held week long camps for younger children and the team received the profits to be put towards their expenses.

The pantherette team held a car wash at Blue Top in early September and all the money helped to pay their tremendous competition fees. The National Honor Society sold candy bars in March to help fund the top ten dinner. Besides NHS, a lot of other organizations sold candy bars. In order to print the last two issues of the *Panther Press* in full color, the staff had to raise at least \$1,030. For each box of candy that they sold they raised \$26. The difference of the cost was provided by selling advertisements to local businesses. Both yearbook and newspaper students had to sell at least one ad to help fund the publication. Many students saw this as a burden, but it tremendously helped reduce the costs of Griffith's publications. Sophomore Melissia Martinez was in charge of the business section for the *Panther Press* and this was senior Nicole Hamill's fourth year as business manager for the *Reflector*.

For the senior chorale, fundraising was not unusual. This year, each student had to pay \$650 for their chorale trip to Chicago. In order to help cut down the costs, many students were

able to sell cookie dough, magazine subscriptions, and advertisements in the programs.

Another expensive trip that some seniors went on was to London. Seven senior students went to London with Lisa Megquier, English, over spring break. They stayed for seven days. The cost of the trip was over \$2,000, however these students did multiple fundraisers. In January they sold flower bulbs and in February they had a Valentine's day dinner. The students also had to purchase a passport that cost \$75.

For most seniors, their year included searching for scholarships to help pay for their college education. It was a burden at times, but it paid off at the end of the year. On May 23, recognition night was held in the auditorium. Many seniors were acknowledged for all of their hard work throughout their four years of high school. Also, both local and non-local scholarships were given out to qualified students. Whether the scholarship was worth \$500 or \$5000, every bit of aid helped the each recipient.

High school is anything but inexpensive. For the 2010-2011 school year, fluxuation in prices was not anything new from previous years. The parking passes were twenty dollars this year, which was fifteen dollars more than the previous year. Chocolate chip cookies at lunch were raised to \$0.65 and entrées were raised to \$1.85. Breakfast at Griffith High School cost \$1.45 and regular lunch cost \$1.95. In early spring, gas prices rose as high as \$4.30 per gallon for regular gas. A song on iTunes cost \$1.29, a Starbucks Frappuccino cost \$3.25, a movie ticket cost \$10.00, a slice of TD's pizza cost \$1.50, and a Big Mac from McDonalds cost \$3.39. A train ticket to Chicago cost \$4.85, Kinect games cost \$49.99, and the iPad 2 cost \$499.

Even though these items seemed expensive to students, eventually we will look back and realize how easy it was to be in high school. Seniors had to look forward to college budgets and the underclassmen got to experience one to three more years of these high school expenses. Whether students were fundraising for a sport or class trip, they made every dollar count!



On March 11, a traumatizing earthquake shook Japan and killed thousands of people. National Honor Society took the responsibility to raise awareness and plan a fundraiser to help with this disaster. The penny wars lasted for one week and each class could contribute pennies to their amount, while other classes were able to "bomb" them by putting in silver which deducts from the classes total. "We started counting on April 20, and we started with [Kristina] Collard's English class because she had filled half of a bin. After an hour of counting, my fingers were black from the dirt on the pennies," said junior Kelly Lannin.

Congratulations Class of 2011



GHS Administration Team
Bonnie Manuel-Principal
Justin Fronek-Assistant Principal
Rick Flutka-Dean of Students
Bill Crowley-Athletic Director

"To believe in yourself and to follow your dreams, to have goals in life and a drive to succeed,"... thank you for your perseverance, Danny - you make us proud!



*Danny
Miller*



Our little girl is all grown up and ready to begin the next of many of life's journeys. Enjoy life, be happy with what you do and the rest will be easy. Surround yourself with family and friends throughout your life. We hope you find happiness and

success.

We are very proud of you!!

Love,
Mom,
Dad, Adam, Lauren, and
Aaron



*Megan
Wilbert*

Kylee Ulm



Kylee,
You have grown from an amazing baby girl to a strong, intelligent and beautiful young woman. I am so proud to call you my daughter and Krystal is so proud to call you her sister. We love you more than words can ever say.

Love,
Mom, Krys, and Nik



Kylee Ulm

Kylee,
Words cannot express how proud we all are of you, especially since you've already exceeded all our expectations. We hope that all of your dreams come true and you experience all that the world has to offer. We love you very much!
Dad and Deb



Kylee Ulm

From the moment you were born we knew you would be someone special. You have not failed to become that person. We are so proud that you have accomplished so many things in your life so far. Through all the smiles and tears you have remained a beautiful, intelligent, talented, and loving granddaughter. Now a new journey begins for you, and we have no doubt that you will accomplish your goals with all the strength and stamina you possess.

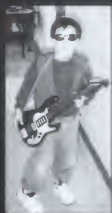
We love you with all our hearts and can't wait to be there for the next chapter of you life.

Grandpa Terry & Grandma Sharon Ulm

Art Garcia

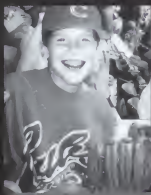
Art,
You have brought us much joy and happiness. We have so many wonderful memories to cherish. You have grown to become a wonderful person. We are so proud of you. We will miss you next year, but remember we will always be here for you. We wish you much happiness, health, success, and love. Stay true to your heart and follow your dreams.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Elise



The baby of our family has grown into a wonderful young man who is graduating. Who knew time would fly by so quickly... Always think positive and follow your dreams. Remember that we love you and are so proud of you. We will always be here for you.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Michelle, Melissa, and Steven



Eric Bean





*Amy
Belcher*



You have grown to be an amazing young woman and we could not be more proud of you!! Thank you for the joy you have brought to our lives. Good luck at Ball State!! Remember to follow your dreams and stay strong in your faith...you can do anything you put your mind to!
All our love,
Mom and Dad

Brooke,

Just can't believe your high school years are coming to an end and you are about to begin the next chapter in your life. We are so proud of all you have accomplished and know that your talent, intelligence, spirit, compassion, and great personality will take you far in life.

We love you,
Mom, Dad, and sisters

*Brooke
Trueblood*



Katie,

We are so fortunate that you are ours! From the time you were a little girl, you've made us smile every day. You have achieved so much because of your dedication and hard work. We're sure the best is yet to come. You're such a good person- generous, intelligent, and caring. You have made us so proud of you! We wish you a lifetime of love, happiness, and success.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Billy, and Mike

*Katie
Cahill*



David,
The years have gone by so quickly. We are very proud of the young man you have become. We wish you happiness and success in whatever the future holds. Congratulations and all our love to you!
Mom and Dad



*David
Baldazo*

Congratulations Brianna on your achievement on this wonderful day. We are so proud of you. Best wishes for your continued journey, may it be filled with happiness and love!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Bryan, Grandma and Grandpa Hicks, and Grandma Sarah Smith



*Brianna
O'Deal Smith*

Time has passed so quickly, it seems like just yesterday that you were our sweet little boy swimming around. Now you are graduating high school and have grown into a handsome young man, with a big heart and independent spirit. Always follow your heart and don't give up on your dreams!

We love you and are proud of you.
Mom, Dad, and Amber



*Zachary
Reed*

Casey McDaniel

Congratulations Casey, the years have gone by so fast. We are proud of you Casey. Your accomplishments are many.

From a little girl at dancing school, through the years of softball and swimming, to achieving your Girl Scout Gold Award. You have grown into a beautiful, artistic, wise young lady. Hold the good memories close to your heart and reach for the stars. Remember, we are and always will be your "great fans".

Love,
Mom & Dad



Alejandro Cordova



We are all proud of you. You have become a very nice and handsome young man. We know you will be very successful in your career. We love you very, very much.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Armando



We are so proud of you and all your accomplishments. We wish you all the best in college and in the future! Follow your dreams.

We love you so much,
Dad, Mom,
Amanda, and
Nicole



Courtney Koleski

Our Dearest Daughter,
 Congratulations Megan! You have made us
 so very proud with all of your incredible ac-
 complishments. You have given us so much
 love and happiness. You will always be the
 best part of our lives and we will love you
 forever and ever.

Great things await you!

Love,
 Mom and Dad



*Megan
 McVicker*



Code-man

Congratulations, you have done it! I am so
 proud of you not just today but everyday. As
 you begin this journey always know I love you,
 every road will bring you home and you are
 one of the greatest accomplishments of my
 life.

As you set off into this next phase of life do
 go with confidence in yourself, empathy for
 others and always with your eyes wide open.
 You have made your family so proud. We all
 love you every day and always and my boy
 "come home smarter".

With all our love,
 Mom, John, and the boys

*Cody
 Modglin*

Seth Verbich



Seth Bob,

You did it. Way to go! I am so proud of you and I love you. I can't believe the time has passed by so fast. As you begin your journey always remember I will always be proud of you. Enjoy the life you're setting out on. Work hard, and you will make it. You have made us so proud.

Love always,
Dad, Melinda and the Boys



From "Twinkle twinkle Little Star" to the "Griffith Fight Song," you've come a long way.

Dream big and never give up. Choose your life before life chooses you.

Above all, remember that I love you and although I may not always be there with you, God will never leave you.

Love,
Mom

Rebecca Basaleh



Dylan,
 "You have brains in your head. You
 have feet in your shoes. You can steer
 yourself in any direction you choose.
 You're on your own. And you know
 what you know. You are the guy who'll
 decide where to go." Dr. Suess
 Good luck in college!! Study hard but
 find time to enjoy the years ahead.
 We Love You!

Gram & Pop, Dad & Teresa, Uncle Bret
 & Beth, Aunt Stacey & Steve,
 Emily & Josh



Dylan Etheridge



David,
 Congratulations on your graduation. You
 have always taken charge of your educa-
 tion and we know you will succeed in
 your future educational goals. We love
 you dearly and we are always here for
 you.

With all our love,
 Dad, Mom, and Aaron



David Gonzalez

Brian,

We are so proud of you and
 your achievements. You
 have the power to accom-
 plish anything you want in
 life. With your intelligence,
 you have the world at your
 doorstep.

You've always followed your
 dreams, and determined
 your own path in life. Always
 remember who you are, and
 where you want to be, and
 you will find happiness in life.
 We will always love you and
 be here for you. Good luck in
 college.

Love,
 Mom, Dad, Laura and Jillian



Brian Beaupain

Elizabeth Biancardi

Elizabeth, It seems like just yesterday that you were an adorable little curly topped kid, and now you are a beautiful young woman about to start the next part of your life. We are so proud of your achievements in academics, music, and art. We know you will continue to excel in college. Your creativity, drive, and willingness to do hard work are traits that every parents wishes for in their child and we have been truly blessed to have you in our family. We wish you a future filled with many blessings and success in everything you choose to do. Congratulations, and we love you so very much.

Love,
Dad, Mom, Nick, Tom, and Allison



Jaime,

We are so proud of the young woman you've grown to be. The past 18 years have gone too quickly. We have many happy memories to cherish of you. Wishing you health, happiness, and success on your journey through life.

We love you!
Mom, Dad, and Danny

Jaime Keller



Chris,

We are so very proud of all the accomplishments you have made in your life. You have shown maturity, kindness, and love throughout your years of growing up and as a young adult. You have touched our hearts dearly. May your dreams stay big and your worries stay small. You are our sunshine, and we will always be there for you. With all of our love.

Love,

Mom, Dad, Kristina, and Michelle

Christopher Plucinski



It seems like just yesterday you began this journey through high school, and now it's time for graduation. You've accomplished so much on the stage,

in the choir, and on the football field. It's been a thrill watching you become the person you are, and the best is yet to come! Always pursue your dreams, keep your faith in God, your level head, and remember we will always love you, and be here for you. Be happy!

Mom, Dad, Tommy, Matt, David, and Jeff



Chris Melton

Kyle Uylaki



Congratulations Kyle, Mom and Dad are so proud of you as well as your grandparents and all of your family. Good luck in college and keep reaching for your dreams and goals in your future. The years have gone by so fast and even though there have been a lot of ups and downs in your life, you have not let anything bring you down. Mom and Dad are so proud of you and all that you have accomplished so far in your life and we know you will have tremendous success throughout your life. Keep up all the hard work and there will be no stopping you in whatever you want in the future. May all of your dreams and aspirations come true.

We love you so much,
Mom and Dad



James Steinhubel

Like, James, all parents, we had high hopes and big dreams for you. What would you become? Would you grow up big and strong? You surpassed all our expectations and grew to be a wonderful, caring, respectable young man. We couldn't be more proud of who you've become! You are an awesome son and a fine young man. Now go out and conquer the world!

Love,
Mom and Dad



Jack Blount

Wow! It seems like yesterday you were the "little guy" on the block playing with your brothers and the neighborhood kids. Now you are the "big Blount"! We have enjoyed watching you grow into a kind, thoughtful, and hard-working young man. We are proud of you: your accomplishments and determination. Be true to yourself, always smile, and reach for the stars.

We love you,
Mom and Dad

Dear Jeff, We are so happy for you to begin your next exciting chapter of life. Since we almost lost you at birth, every day that you have been with us has been cherished. God blessed you with life, and we pray that he will continue to bless you. We are very proud of the man you are today and know that with the character engrained in you, you will be successful at any endeavor.

Love,
Mom and Don



Jeff Tinich

Congratulations to our beautiful daughter on her high school graduation. What a wonderful and caring young lady you have become. We are so proud of your accomplishments. You have brought so much happiness to our lives. We love you so much and know you will be successful in whatever path you may choose.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Stephanie,
Steven, and Sarah



*Brooke
Hobbs*

On the day you were born, we received our Christmas Miracle. It was the most blessed day of our lives. For the past 18 years, we have watched you grow into a beautiful young woman. Your

kindness, compassion, ethics, and values shine like a light house on the darkest of nights; a beacon of hope for a new generation. Your love has no bounds even to the debts of the sea. The dolphins and whales will be proud to call you friend; as you pursue your dream to become a Marine Biologist. Sweet-heart, we wish you the best of luck and all the blessings life has to offer.

All our Love,

Mom, Don, Jon, Grandma, and Grandpa



*Amanda
Boyer*

Daniel Kime



Daniel,
Eighteen years ago God gave us a beautiful blue eyed baby boy "Our Doodle Bug." How we have loved seeing you grow. You have become an amazing young man, so handsome and charming with a smile that lights up your eyes. It has been such a blessing to be able to walk by your side and guide you these past eighteen years. We know you will do great in whatever path you choose in life. Never lose that wonderful sense of humor and you will do just fine.

We love you!

Dad, Mom, Andy, Lorie, Josh, Abby, and Stewie.

P.S. Dad says, "Go Cowboys!"



Jayce
Lagestee

Congratulations
Jayce!
YOU DA MAN!!!
WOO-HOO!!
Dad, Mom,
Justin, and
Jordan



Zachary
Spires

Congratulations on your graduation from high school. It seems like yesterday that you were starting school. You are an extremely kind, caring, and respectful young man. We know you will succeed in whatever you do. We have always been so proud of you.
Love,
Mom and Dad



Dear Presley,
You are a blessing from above! We have been so fortunate to be able to be a part of your life. We are so proud of the beautiful lady you have become not only on the outside, more importantly on the inside. Thank you for all the memories! We know you will succeed in whatever you want in life... follow your dreams!

Love,
Papa and
Grandma

Presley
Corich

Presley KayAnn Corich

"Pita" 2011



Presley,

Thank you for 18 years of priceless memories! The very first day of school to the very last, you have brought joy and laughter, surprises, and proud moments!! Your kindness and gracious giving heart shine far above even the most exciting thrill you gave us on basketball courts all around the region/state. You have become the strong, beautiful young lady that we knew you would. We know you are fully prepared to spread your wings and soar to find your dreams, Love you a million red peanut M&M's...

Love,
Mom and Dad



Joshua Kisfalusi



We have watched you grow from a sweet little boy into a kind compassionate young man. You have given us so many wonderful memories over the last eighteen years! We are proud of all your athletic and academic accomplishments, your hard work, honesty, integrity and just being you: keep smiling!! Remember the good times, the funny times, all your friends and learn from your mistakes. Work hard at college but have fun too! We will miss you!

Always remember your family loves you and will always be here for you!!

With all our love,
Dad, Mom, and
Zachary
Congratulations!

KP,

We've had the privilege of watching you grow into a beautiful young woman on the inside and out. We're so proud of you and your scholastic and soccer accomplishments. You've always been and continue to be, an amazing joy and blessing to us! We love you dearly and we'll always be here cheering you on! Your biggest fans, Mom, Dad, Brooke, Luke, and Max



*Kristen
Pospychala*



Having you for a daughter has brought me more proud moments than you will ever know. I have been dreaming of your future since the day you were born. Watching you grow and mature has been a great experience. I am proud of you for who you are and what you will aspire to become. I love you! Forever and always, Momma

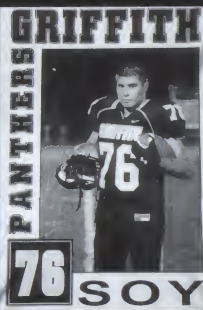


*Samantha
Marker*



We are so proud of you. This is just the start of a future that lies in your hands. We know you have always appreciated the love and support from your family. The memories that you leave in our hearts will never be forgotten. As for your college years, our love and support will always be there.

Love,
Mom and Dad



*Brandon
Soy*

Amanda Clark



Mandi,
Reach for the stars
sweetie. You al-
ways have. We are
so proud of you!
Continue reaching
for whatever you
want and it will be
yours.

Love,
Mom and Dad

Calvin Bonewits

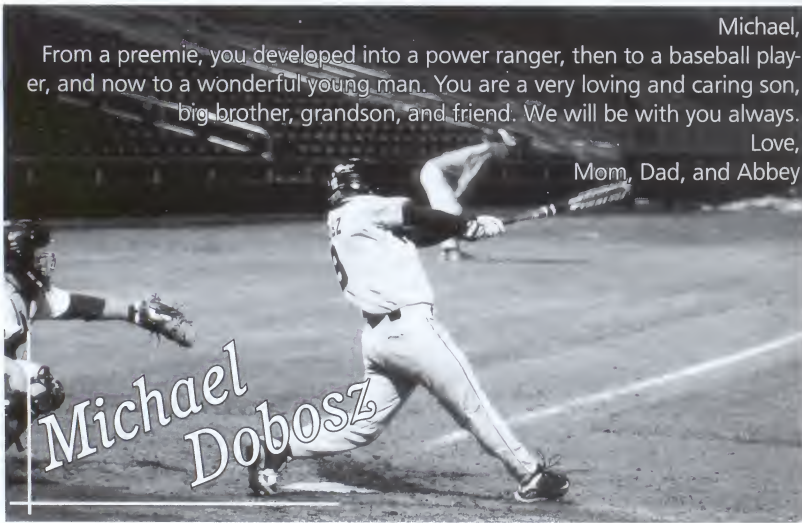


Dear Calvin,
All of your hard work and
dedication has paid off! Your
high school career was a
huge success! You are a success! We are very proud
of you and all you have accomplished. We wish you
the best of everything in the years ahead.

Love,
Mom and Dad

Michael,
From a preemie, you developed into a power ranger, then to a baseball play-
er, and now to a wonderful young man. You are a very loving and caring son,
big brother, grandson, and friend. We will be with you always.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Abbey



Michael Dobosz

Brian Orzechowicz



Brian,
Congratulations on achieving
your goal as a state finalist for
wrestling. We knew you could
do it, but you had to believe
in yourself first. This belief in
yourself will take you far in
life! Good luck in all your fu-
ture endeavors and know that
your family is with you all the
way!



Time has a way
of slipping away
quickly, but in
eighteen years you
have grown from
our little boy to a
man we are proud
to call our son!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Molly,
and Gus



Kelly Jones

I am so proud of all your accomplishments. The road you traveled from birth until now has been long with many obstacles in your path. You are the person in this town who has changed the stereotypes and broke through barriers. Kelly you are an unbelievable daughter. The strength and determination

you exhibited during adversities, criticism, negativity, unnoticed, and allowing others to shine. That is something no one but you and I understand and know.

I am so proud of you, never giving up or letting anyone or anything keep you from achieving your goals you made for yourself. You did it, fighting hard to be accepted for the kind of person you are. When others said you couldn't do it you ignored them and fought as hard as you could to prove them wrong. Your dad is looking down at you from heaven and giving you a standing ovation and saying, that's my little girl. He would have been so proud. You are my hero and to

others. I love you and I know you will go far in life. I am letting go of your hand so that you may soar lives unknown. I am sad, but happy to be able to let go, and to let you know I will always be with you, if you need me, as you take those steps toward the future.



Oh where has the time gone? It seems like just the other day you were born! You are a special gift to us and we are so proud of all your accomplishments. Now you will begin a new chapter in your life and as always, we wish you success and happiness.

We love you - Ginger Girl
Love,
Mom
and
Dad



*Jillian
Dixon*



You have grown into such a smart, talented, beautiful young woman. I am proud of your many accomplishments and I'm looking forward to seeing what the next chapter of your life will bring! I am so proud of you!

Congratulations!
Love,
Mom and Allie



*Chrissy
Colgrove*

Richie Zakrzewski

Congratulations Richie!
We are so very proud of you and all your accomplishments. You have filled our lives with great joy and wonderful memories. May your future be blessed with health and success. Remember we love you and will always be there for you.

God Bless You!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Nicole, &
Aiden



Alexis Morikis

Alexis, our princess. We are so very proud of you. You are a bright, strong, confident young woman with the ability to do amazing things in life. May all your hopes and dreams come true, you deserve it.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and the guys



Zach Pirtle

Congratulations Zach on your accomplishment. We are very proud of you. You have had many ups and downs but you finally made it. All of your hard work and dedication has paid off. Good luck to you in college. Stay true to yourself and never let go of your dreams or lose sight on your goals. We all love you. If your mom were here she would give you a big kiss and hug and tell you how proud she is that you are her son.

Love,
Aunt Debbie



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in·dex



activities day: (n.) The one day that fighting is condoned among all the high school students of GHS. Two hours of games, a fiery competition between the classes. Normally won by seniors, although sometimes juniors pull through and win first place.

83, 168

Adams, Caylee 83, 85, 86, 128, 158
Adams, Christian 80, 168
Adams, Sammi 86, 104, 105, 128, 129, 158
Adams, Zac 11, 28, 130, 131, 136
Adkins, Chandler 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 100, 101, 120, 121, 168
Aguilar, Samantha 23, 82, 84, 99, 124, 148
Aguilera, Natalie 136
Aguilar, Samantha 125
Alcantar, Armando 168
Aldape, Cristina 96, 116, 117, 148
Aldape, Jesus 20, 83, 86, 94, 95, 158
Ally, Breanna 21, 82, 96, 97, 168, 173
Alvarez, Jasmine 88, 92, 93, 104, 168
Alvarez, Michael 95, 168
Alvarez, Raymond 39, 43, 44, 51, 68, 81, 82, 83, 84, 86, 87, 136, 215
Anderson, Brittany 85, 148, 151
Anderson, Dominique 82, 124, 125, 168
Andriessen, Bri-ann 31, 71, 82, 83, 84, 111, 116, 158, 163
Anzur, Christy 84, 86, 96, 97, 158
Armstrong, Joseph 158
Arndt, Ashley 82, 83, 168
Arndt, David 39, 136, 145
Arnold, Tara 135, 168
Ashenbaugh, Josh 122, 123, 148, 152
Atkins, Amber 59, 82, 120, 148, 152
Augustyn, Erik 148
Austin, Taylor 98, 99, 104, 124, 125, 158
Avalos, Jordan 95
Avalos, Ryan 94, 95, 148
Ayala, Khristian 72, 84, 95, 158, 161

Baccino, Jonathon 31, 122, 123, 168, 177

Baccino, Mallory 3, 47, 80, 83, 86, 108, 109, 148
Backe, Taylor 92, 116, 158
Bacon, Victoria 158
Baeza, Miranda 158
Bahena-Alvarez, Jessica 168, 177
Bailey, Caitlin 148
Bailey, Nathan 26, 27, 66, 99, 148
Baker, Stephanie 61, 87, 136
Bakko, Amanda 17, 33, 86, 107, 148, 151
Baldazo, David 34, 38, 80, 84, 85, 136, 143
Ballard, Charles 168

Ballard, Timothy 127
Baltus, Jordan 82, 83, 92, 168, 172
Banas, Jordanne 148
Band, Garage 74
Bannon, Shelby 85
Barajas, Destiny 73, 83, 84, 124, 158
Barham, Tanner 158
Barnes, Demetrius 168
Barron, Tyler 148, 157
Barta, Katelyn 11, 39, 96, 97, 136
Bartochowski, Rosemary 57, 82, 83, 168
Basaleh, Rebecca 10, 26, 83, 110, 111, 136
Basham, Brianne 74, 82, 96, 168
Baum, Kathryn 80, 82, 100, 101, 116, 168
Beach, Robert 33
Bean, Eric 9, 131, 136, 143
Beaupain, Brian 14, 48, 72, 80, 84, 137
Belcher, Amy 36, 40, 51, 74, 80, 83, 84, 104, 137
Bell, Jazmine 104, 124, 125, 168
Bell, Jevon 91, 158
Benko, Chris 62, 91, 158, 164
Berry, Darius 168
Biancardi, Elizabeth 50, 87, 137, 143, 145
Biancardi, Kaitlyn 82, 137

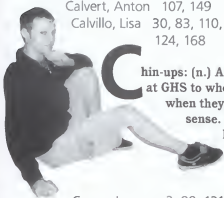
Biancardi, Timothy 38, 137
Bias, Brianna 50, 96, 97, 104, 148
Biegel, Ryan 149
Blackard, Emma 104, 158
Blair, Katie 82, 84, 149
Blankenship, Vanessa 84, 104, 149
Blaski, Lisa 82, 83, 149

Black Ops: (n.) The new Call of Duty game that came out November 9 and took everyone by storm. Teens would be caught playing this instead of doing more responsible things such as homework.

Blood, Jack 35, 39, 86, 91, 118, 119, 131, 137

Blount, Jack 35, 39, 86, 91, 118, 119, 131, 137
Blumh, Matthew 57, 127, 137, 178
Blumh, Ryan 91, 119, 149
Bocock, Logan 91, 123, 137, 147
Bodnar, Josh 90, 91, 148, 149
Bogan, William 80, 122, 123, 158
Bolda, Danny 115, 158
Bonaparte, Tjeie 158
Bonewits, Calvin 11, 39, 84, 90, 91, 107, 130, 131, 137, 141, 148
Bonewits, Kelsey 85, 92, 93, 104, 149, 152
Booker, Elizabeth 30, 56, 149
Botkin, Brandon 158
Bowman, Martin 27, 39, 137
Boyer, Amanda 36, 39, 70, 83, 84, 137, 138, 178
Bozinovich, Zachary 17, 94, 95, 114, 127, 137
Bramlett, Deonta 12, 149
Bramlett, Devon 158
Brandeis, Louis 155
Brandner, Stephanie 85, 86, 107, 128, 129, 149, 216
Brewer, Victoria 168
Bridges, Katie 13, 20, 83, 86, 108, 109, 158
Brinkley, Brett 20, 21, 29, 74, 76, 83, 90, 91, 130, 131, 158, 164
Brinkley, Brooke 20, 35, 75, 80, 83, 85, 86, 104, 149
Broelmann, Dakota 80, 91, 123, 168
Brouillette, Sara 100, 101, 138
Brown, Ashley 20, 51, 96, 149, 155
Brown, Austin 19, 20, 21, 83, 91, 106, 107, 126, 127, 158
Brown, Caitlin 83, 96, 116, 124, 125, 158
Brummet, Brandon 91, 158
Brummet, Nick 12, 84, 149
Bryant, Kortland 49, 107, 127, 158
Bubala, Amy 21, 76, 82, 83, 85, 96, 97, 104, 168, 172
Bugarin, Fernanda 25, 37, 83, 104, 137, 138
Buikema, Kyle 1, 21, 25, 91, 107, 130, 131, 168
Bullard, Timothy 77, 99, 149
Burbridge, Tiffany 85, 128, 149
Burk, Melinda 35, 85, 149
Butkus, Margaret 138
Butkus, Matthew 138, 145, 147
Buxton, Kristi 37, 39, 85, 128, 129, 138, 216
Byers, Josilyn 9, 19, 20, 149
Bytnar, Lauren 82, 168

Cadiz, Desiree 26
Cahill, Katie 32, 39, 42, 43, 45, 57, 84, 86, 120, 138, 141



Chin-ups: (n.) A little game created by some kids here at GHS to where they would hit someone's chin when they would say something without common sense. Most people would try to avoid this happening so they wouldn't get called out on a comment that was said.

Caldwell, Willetra 124, 158
Calvert, Anton 107, 149
Calvillo, Lisa 30, 83, 110, 111, 124, 168
Camp, Jeremy 2, 89, 131, 149
Camp, Justin 149
Camp, Ryan 75, 83, 119, 131, 158
Campbell, Mia 38, 39, 65, 77, 85, 86, 138
Cannon, Kristyn 4, 82, 145
Caraballo, Nelisa 18, 83, 108, 109, 138, 145
Cartagena, Jose 149
Cartagena, Julian 127, 158
Carter, Alyssa 140, 149
Carter, Anthony 20, 21, 87, 107, 131, 158, 159
Carter, Kyriah 138
Carter, Manon 83, 86, 87, 92, 116, 117, 158, 159
Cartwright, Margaret 112, 149
Castellanos, Yadi 9, 21, 85, 96, 97, 168
Caudillo, Priscilla 149
Caudillo, Theresa 168
Cedano, Lillian 145
Chalifoux, Joshua 150
Chandler, Avery 4, 214
Chavez, Christa 150
Chavez, Jackie 96, 169
Chavez, Andres 169
Cheek, Robert 74, 76, 83, 158
Cherry, Gabe 91
Christenson, Caitlin 96, 158
Christenson, Cassie 8, 22, 43, 68, 81, 83, 84, 86, 87, 138
Christenson, Samantha 80, 169
Christopher, Donte 150
Chyung, Chris 60
Gimmino, Daniele 83
Giorianu, Adam 158
Cisneros, Miryoe 10, 15, 19, 20, 21, 83, 84, 86, 87, 160, 163
Clark, Ailey 4, 6, 82, 83, 84, 86, 87, 128, 160
Clark, Mandi 39, 83, 85, 96, 136, 138, 216
Clark, Sarah 3, 10, 60, 83, 85, 86, 108, 109, 150
Clay, Edward 106, 107, 150, 157
Coccaro, Michael 95, 169
Coen, David 127
Coglianese, Tyler 139, 145
Colburn, Kim 16

Cole, Brandon 150
Colgrove, Chrissy 65, 70, 75, 78, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 120, 139
Collins, Miles 54, 160
Colomes, Matthew 107, 131, 169
Comings, Arnetia 169
Cordova, Alejandro 30, 51, 139
Cordova, Armando 160
Corich, Presley 32, 55, 104, 105, 139
Corona, Alexys 40, 84, 85, 169
Corrie, Brian 132, 160, 163
Cotton, Chonetta 83
Cotton, Marcell 141, 142
Cox, Adele 150
Cox, Cori 100, 101, 169
Cox, Rhiannon 33, 128, 129, 150
Crachy, Nick 139
Craig-Garland, Khali 169
Craig-Garland, Quinette 83, 139, 141, 147
Craven, Garrett 139
Creech, Evelyn 160, 164
Csonka, Matt 80, 85, 102, 169
Culbreath, TyJuan 118, 119, 160
Cullen, Ellison 80, 83, 85, 86, 111, 150, 216
Cunningham, Jody 82, 83, 169
Curnow, Chris 52, 139
DalSanto, Mia 12, 77, 81, 82, 84, 87, 160
Dalton, Joseph 169
Darrrough, Aisha 83, 86, 150
Davenport, Paris 126, 127, 150
Davidson, Cody 150
Davidson, James 127, 150
Davila, Jose 160, 167
Davis, Bobbi 83, 85, 169
Day, Shelby 150
DeBerry, Darreyl 169
Degand, Levi 169
Del Val, Ezekiel 56, 80, 169
Delgado, Alyssa 77, 150, 152
Delpino, Michael 91, 169
Delpino, Mike 115
DelPrado, Amber 128
Dennison, Jake 18, 87, 160, 164



Denny, Logan 80, 91, 114, 115, 169
DeRolf, Jenna 82, 92, 169
Diallo, Aminata 160
Diaz, Alex 21, 83, 119, 131, 160, 163
Dickey, Brandon 169
Dillon, Morgan 82, 83, 110, 150, 155
DiSanto, Stephanie 22, 96, 116, 160
Dittrich, Daniel 169
Dittrich, Niki 150
Dixon, Jillian 36, 43, 65, 78, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 108, 109, 139, 216
Dixon, Vershe' 150
Dobosz, Michael 131, 138, 139
Domanski, Ben 150, 155
Domanski, Jessica 38, 50, 139
Douglas, Tyler 31, 107, 169
Downs, Sean 83, 160, 161
Dragutinovic, Vid 80, 114, 115, 169
Droz, Kristen 128, 169
Drummond, Jaimie Lyn 32, 49, 66, 84, 124, 139
Drummond, Kailie 124, 160

Dance Central: (n.) A new Xbox kinetic game that came out in which you follow along to the dance moves that the character on the screen shows and while doing that, your fellow friends can get a few laughs in too.

Duhon, Alice 57, 77, 80, 84, 85, 86, 150
Duhon, Andy 16, 56, 60, 83, 84, 86, 99, 114, 115, 126, 127, 160
Duhon, Emily 7, 82, 96, 169, 171
Dunagan, Cory 91, 160, 167
Duncan, Thomas 160
Dunlap, Ryan 91, 119, 169
Dunlap, Tyler 169, 171
Dunn, Kikki 80
Duvnjak, Julie 13, 20, 83, 84, 86, 87, 96, 160
Dye, Kimberly 160
Dyer, Brandon 80, 107, 170



Eatman, Gilbert 8, 91, 107, 126, 127
Eatman, Kyla 83, 85, 86, 111, 150
Edwards, Chance 21, 91, 170
Elkins, Melody 34, 81, 82, 137, 140
Earthquake: (n.) One of the natural disasters of the world that put Japan in total chaos. A "shake drill" was issued on April 19, 2011 for the first time in the Indiana region to where students had to sit under their desks to help inform them what to do in a case of an earthquake.

Erwin, Brianna 140
Ecalante, Ruben 170
Esquivel, Ricardo 170
Estell, Jamesha 150

Etheridge, Dylan 37, 45, 85, 140, 216

Falcon, Amanda 32, 41, 67, 84, 150

Falkner, Eric 38, 140

Fassoth, Shi 53, 74, 86, 96,

124, 125, 150, 156

Fassoth, Zane 95, 170

Felde, Andrew 21, 47, 170



Friday": (n.) Rebecca Black's first and maybe only single that had GHS talking. With this, students would begin to sing the lyrics every Friday and would cause some students to be annoyed and some to just get a kick out of it. "It's Friday, Friday/Gotta get down on Friday/Everybody's lookin' forward to the weekend, weekend/Friday, Friday/Gettin' down on Friday/Everybody's lookin' forward to the weekend."

Felde, Cole 25, 35, 47, 73, 80, 86, 150

Fenell, Todd 91, 170, 175

Ferrell, Zachary 171

Ficht, Ann 100, 101, 160

Ficht, Matthew 115, 122, 123, 140

Figueroa, Andrew 91, 127, 160

Fisch, Ryan 68, 82, 87, 94, 95, 107, 140

Fisch, Sara 24, 83, 108, 170

Fitzgerald, Ted 10, 57, 80, 81, 82, 83, 86, 102, 103, 150

Fleishman, Robert 17, 31, 34, 35, 106, 107, 148, 150

Flores, Cecilia 170

Fogarty, Rachelle 22, 44, 78, 82, 92, 124, 150

Foster, Austin 18, 35, 47, 85, 107, 150

Fowler, Andrew 160

Fox, Jasmine 150

Franklin, Andrea 83

Fuller, Samantha 69, 80, 82, 83, 170

Galambos, Sarah 32, 46, 75, 83, 92, 128, 160, 167

Gale, Brandon 87, 107, 130, 131, 160

Gale, Megan 63, 70, 80, 82, 84, 85, 86, 140

Gallina, Shawn 131, 150

Gamble, RaShawn 80, 160

Gamez, Roberto 80

Gamino, Guadalupe 82, 168, 170

Gannon, Shelby 170

Garastik, Rachel 31, 57, 80, 84,

86, 116, 117, 150

Garcia, Art 37, 38, 39, 64, 84, 85,

138, 140, 141, 178, 214

Garcia, Brandon 21, 28, 131, 170

Garcia, Megan 73, 80, 82, 83, 124, 170

Garcia, Stephanie 140

Gardner, Kaitlynd 160

Gardner, Katie 128

Gartman, Stephan 150

Gary, Ashlan 160

Garza, Aaron 94, 95, 171

Garza, Selena 172

Gates, Olivia 85, 150, 155

Gates, Sarah 77, 80, 82, 83, 84, 128, 171

Gautreaux, Jillian 150

Gaydos, Jimmy 48, 86, 150

Gearhart, Blaire 8, 60,

68, 76, 80, 81, 82,

83, 84, 86, 87, 158,

160

Gebo, Alyssa

104, 124,

125, 166

Gee, Mad-

eline 171

Genovese, Angela 26, 83, 171

Gerald, Lucas 171

Gerber, Brandi 82, 83, 171

Gilbert, Kaitlyn 39, 140, 143

Gillam, Robert 171

Gilman, Skylar 140, 150

Glascoff, Holley 150

Glass, Lucas 150

Glass, Maegan 82, 83, 116, 117, 160, 165

Golub, Joseph 6, 87, 160, 164

Gonzales, Lauren 160

Gonzales, Monica 82, 171

Gonzales, Ramon 80

Gonzales, Robert 60, 98, 99, 140

Gonzales, Sydney 171

Gonzalez, Adriana 150

Gonzalez, Carlos 171

Gonzalez, David 27, 131, 140

Gonzalez, Jordan 94, 95, 160

Gonzalez, Matt 91

Gonzalez, Ramon 171

Gonzalez, Robert 127

Gonzalez, Sergio 96, 171, 172

Gonzalez, Sydney 116

Goode, Nicholas 140, 178

Glee: (n.) Ashow that helps high school students see that people from all different groups and stereotypes can come together to work and win a competition of singing.

Goodson, Jessica 12, 150

Gora, Kyle 150

Gordon, Kyle 171, 177

Graan, Ryan 15, 46, 69, 80, 150

Grabos, Abigail 96, 124, 160, 216

Grady, Jordan 80, 119, 171, 176

Grahovac, Matthew 60, 79, 81, 82, 83, 86, 99, 140

Grann, Ryan 156

Greenlaw, Kalissa 82, 85, 86

Grin, Taryn 10, 16, 128, 171

Grin, Zach 91, 160

Gronkiewicz, Steven 45, 95, 112, 113, 137, 140, 142

Gross, Daniel 150

Gross, Michelle 170, 171

Guistolisi, Sarah 5, 34, 35, 64, 78, 80,

82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 108, 109, 150, 216

Gutierrez, Sierra 48, 128, 133, 160

Haager, Holli 124, 125, 140, 216

Haddad, Bashar 150

Haddad, Jawhara 84, 171

Haddad, Vivian 160

Hagler-Jackson, Rae'Shawn 150

Halley, Veronica 6

Hamill, Nicole 84, 85, 140, 178, 216

Hamilton, Cody 140

Hamilton, Tyler 140

Hamm, Olivia 171

Hampton, De'Andre 160

Hoagie: (n.) One of the semi-okay lunches at our school that some people loves but yet some hated. A mystery meat to all students who are yet to find out some of the ingredients that were forced into their mouths during the school year.

Haney, Brooke 172

Hanlon, Tony 14, 38, 80, 140

Hannsberry, DeAndre 160

Hansen, Stacie 64, 80, 84, 86, 92, 150

Hardy, Clarissa 84, 150

Hargis, Courtney 50, 112, 113, 150

Harpst, Stephanie 172

Harwell, Whitney 150

Hassan, Al 95, 160

Hawkins, Shannon 172

Hayes, Rachell 13

Henderson, Riley 25, 32, 150

Hermosillo, Jessica 19, 120, 121, 140, 141

Hermosillo, Mercedes 87, 120, 121, 160

Hernandez, Lauren 9, 60, 82, 83, 85, 96, 97, 116, 172

Herrera, Justin 119

Hicks, Jay 127, 159

Hicks, Jessica 160

Higgins, David 21, 160

Hijazin, Yasmeen 172

Hilbrich, Sydney 68, 82, 83, 85, 108,



109, 172, 173
 Hill, Daizja 160
 Hilliard, Rhiannon 46, 160
 Hinkle, Raleigh 150
 Hoadley, Tristan 172
 Hobbs, Brooke 12, 140
 Hogue, Logan 172
 Holt, Alexander 160
 Holtzer, Jillian 61, 80, 81, 100, 101, 113, 160
 Holycross, Dustin 30, 47, 139, 140, 145
 Hoover, Donald 14, 27, 70, 80, 102, 103, 150, 155
 Hope, Regina 92, 93, 139
 Horton, Tina 47, 150
 Hosein, Kody 150
 Hosein, Kristianna 160, 164
 Howard, Gena 50
 Howard, Jayson 119, 127
 Howard, Leneta 160
 Hudiczius, George 80, 94, 95, 172
 Huff, Breona 12, 153
 Hurdish, Laura 73, 85, 86, 87, 96, 97, 140, 141
 Hurdish, Sarah 1, 39, 66, 84, 85, 86, 96, 140, 214
 Huzzie, Daniel 140, 141

Ingbretson, Shelby 172
 Issa, Ashwaq 140

James, Michael 66, 172
 James, Angel 26, 87, 116, 124, 160
 Jancosek, Natalie 160
 Jemison, Cornelius 80, 83, 119, 172
 Jenkins, Kendall 153
 Jenkins, Tyrus 91, 172
 Jeronimo, Manuel 153
 Jimenez, Carlos 14, 60, 80, 86
 Jimenez, Isaiah 80, 95, 172
 Johanson, Deanna 28, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 172
 Johns, Jackie 76, 80, 84, 86, 160
 Johnson, Ed 38, 106, 107, 126, 127, 141
 Johnson, Ellen 66, 81, 84, 87, 96, 160
 Johnson, Erick 107, 172, 176
 Johnson, Jacob 139
 Johnson, Lindsay 48, 140
 Johnson, Nick 66, 84
 Jones, Airrick 172
 Jones, Brian 143
 Jones, Briana 153



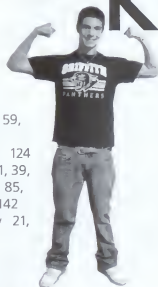
Jersey Shore: (n.) Fist-pumping and partying it up all night was the one show that students looked forward to every Thursday to see their favorite characters.

Jones, Byron 131
 Jones, Cecily 172
 Jones, Darien 13, 160
 Jones, Kaneshia 80, 153
 Jones, Kelly 9, 64, 83, 84, 85, 108, 109, 124, 137, 140
 Joyce, Sara 21, 29, 82, 83, 85, 108, 109, 169, 172, 173
 Jung, Cameron 80, 172
 Jursic, Kyle 4, 14, 54, 72, 80, 84, 142

Kahr, Nathan 160
 Kauchak, Matthew 160
 Kazmer, Rachael 162, 167
 Kegebein, Cameron 80, 91, 130, 131, 173
 Keller, Jaime 16, 19, 80, 84, 142

Pad: (n.) The new sleek Apple product that came out this year and is said to be a more advanced laptop which catches the eyes of young teens today.

Kelly, Dontrell 11, 27, 39, 70, 74, 84, 142, 145
 Kent, Maddie 82, 83, 173
 Kent, Michael 8, 84, 153
 Kepchar, Joel 3, 15, 27, 40, 80, 81, 82, 85, 86, 98, 99, 126, 153
 Kessey, Jack 162
 Khalid, Ahmad 8, 39, 118, 119, 127
 Whittington 10, 11, 12 (captain 12) (regional qualifier 12: Track and Field 10, 12)
 Kiel, Peter 153
 Kik, Abbi 92, 93, 173
 Kime, Daniel 21, 39, 82, 142, 143
 Kime, Joshua 55, 59, 80, 85, 170, 173
 Kirnes, De'Andrea 124
 Kisfalusi, Joshua 1, 39, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 95, 122, 123, 142
 Kitzmiller, Mathew 21, 87, 161, 162



Koble, Kyle 173
 Koen, David 119, 162
 Koleski, Courtney 36, 80, 83, 86, 112, 113, 138, 142, 214
 Koliboski, Sarah 26, 82, 112, 173
 Kong, Derrick 162
 Koselke, Jake 83, 119, 131, 162
 Krajnak, Allyson 92, 169, 173
 Kras, Elizabeth 52, 65, 80, 81, 86, 112, 113, 153
 Kronland, Kyle 153
 Kroslack, Ciarra 14, 27, 83, 84, 87, 92, 162, 164
 Kudyba, Nicholas 28, 86, 88, 95, 114, 115, 153, 157
 Kudyba, Thomas 15, 83, 94, 95, 114, 115, 162
 Kuiper, Amanda 162, 164
 Kuna, Sarah 82, 116, 117, 124, 162
 Kunka, Shannon 82, 84, 116, 117, 162, 165
 Kurpela, Lisa 153, 216
 Kuzmanoff, Emily 46, 83, 91, 128, 162

Lagestee, Jayce 39, 141, 142
 Lambert, Dylan 162
 Landon, Andrew 54
 Lanfear, Jenny 29, 83, 85, 86, 110, 111, 153
 Lannin, Kelly 33, 84, 86, 153, 179
 Lanting, Alyssa 32, 65, 77, 82, 84, 85, 86, 116, 142
 Lastagarkov, Kalie 28, 51, 86, 96, 116, 117, 153
 Latronica, Alex 39, 128, 142

London: (n.) A group of the seven of the 2011 seniors and Mrs. Megquier that went to London, England to help them make an experience that will last forever.

Lavolette, Colin 153
 Lavolette, Courtney 173
 Lavolette, Kennedy 173

kickboxing: (n.) A new trend of exercising for all types of people that are willing to work hard and get in shape.

Lear, Nicole 80, 173
 LeBrun, Kati 82, 116, 117, 173
 LeJeune, Cody 82, 153
 Lemke, Joseph 153
 Lemus, Cali 65, 87, 112, 153
 Leon, Andrea 83, 173
 Leslie, James 162
 Lesniewski, Dana 18, 53, 83, 110, 111, 173, 176
 Lesniewski, Megan 23, 83, 86, 153
 Lesniewski, Michelle 47, 51, 53, 80, 83, 86,

92, 149, 153
 Lewis, Nichole 162
 Lewis, Rodney 80, 106, 107, 127, 173
 Lidster, Keith 80, 81, 82, 83, 85, 102, 103, 142
Bowling Club 10, 11, 12 Varsity Tennis 12 Spell Road 10, 11, 12 Academic SuperBowl 11, 12 Varsity 11, 12 Student Council 12
 Lidster, Sydney 80, 87, 120, 121, 162
 Linders, Emily 162
 Lipski, Tyler 21, 91, 107, 131, 173
 Lisle, Katelyn 112, 113, 162
 Litke, Garrett 35, 86, 102, 103, 106, 107, 130, 131, 148, 153
 Little, Abbey 15, 83, 86, 128, 162, 163
 Little, Richard 162
 London, Andrew 40, 83, 173
 Long, Jordan 20, 85, 86, 102, 103, 115, 131, 162, 216
 Long, Nick 95, 173
 Loomis, Jacob 30, 122, 123, 162, 163
 Lopez, Fernando 162
 Lopez, Kassandra 120, 121, 162
 Lopez-Hernandez, Julian 142
 Losiniecki, Taylor 162
 Louie, Taylor 22, 79, 83, 84, 86, 91, 127, 133, 161, 162, 178
 Louviere, Tori 44, 51, 153
 Lowe, Ari 145
 Lowe, Jared 56, 80, 83, 168, 174
 Lunsford, Kelsie 82, 84, 162

87, 92, 93, 124, 162, 178
 Massa, Courtney 84, 141, 142
 Mata, Jasmine 75, 84, 142
 Matthews, Ashley 45, 67, 142
 May, Joseph 133, 162
 Maywald, Sara 82, 100, 174
 Mazur, Nicholas 153
 Mazzone, Jessie 48, 82, 92, 128, 174
 McCabe, Connor 91, 119, 174
 McCain, Edwin 19
 McCarthy, Julie 170, 174
 McClanahan, Jeff 107
 McDaniel, Casey 39, 55, 84, 138, 143
 McDaniel, Keelia 153
 McDaniel, Tiffany 12, 83, 87, 162
 McGivney, Sarah 164
 McInerney, Cindy 11, 15, 20, 84, 86, 96, 97, 164
 McInerney, Samantha 39, 80, 83, 84, 85, 86, 96, 97, 143, 216
 McLemore, Brittini 82, 83, 84, 124, 125, 153
 McNeill, Nathan 79, 91, 153
 McReynolds, Marcus 164
 McVicker, Megan 37, 39, 42, 43, 68, 77, 81, 82, 83, 84, 86, 87, 143, 214, 215
 Meece, Allison 98, 99, 116, 124, 161, 164
 Megquier, Robbie 28, 86, 126, 127, 155, 156
 Melchor, Alyssa 82, 83, 84, 85, 164, 216

Miller, Melissa 50, 92, 93, 153
 Mitchell, Malik 107, 174
 Mitchell, Emily 13, 87, 164
 Modglin, Cody 84, 131, 143
 Monko, Samantha 82, 128, 174
 Moore, Destiny 82, 83, 110, 111, 128, 174
 Moore, Quincy 47, 51, 86, 127, 153
 Moore, Shakyra 82, 174
 Morales, Amelia 50, 70, 86, 153
 Morales, Jackie 164
 Morales, Jodi 69, 164
 Morikis, Alexis 32, 100, 144
 Morikis, John 55, 153
 Morris, Parish 13
 Morrison, Tyler 153
 Moseley, Alec 174
 Moseley, Derek 136, 144
 Muex, Jolisa 151, 153
 Muffett, Abigail 83, 161, 164
 Mull, Kyle 20, 39, 144
 Muller, Courtney 83, 174
 Muller, Zach 51, 52, 118, 119, 130, 131, 149, 153, 155
 Mureiko, Marisa 82, 84, 153
 Murphy, Amber 164
 Myers, Ross 12, 68, 76, 81, 102, 103, 112, 113, 123, 159, 164

Madrigal, Jonathan 169, 174

Maglish, Brittany 83, 85, 86, 96, 162, 216
 Maglish, Brooke 20, 82, 83, 108, 109, 171, 174
 Malerich, Avery 15, 60, 153, 178
 Mallard, Patrick 162
 Malone, Steven 81, 82, 86, 153
 Manning, Kamilie 82, 111, 174
 Manning, Kyla 23, 82, 83, 174
 Mares, Victoria 25, 82, 92, 93, 119, 124, 125, 174
 Marker, Samantha 28, 33, 85, 86, 92, 93, 104, 105, 142
 Marquez, Steven 91, 162
 Marshall, Haley 83, 162
 Martin, Brandon 162
 Martin, Natasha 124, 153
 Martinez, Jackie 87, 162
 Martinez, Leslie 2, 17, 23, 83, 153, 157
 Martinez, Luis 80, 119, 174
 Martinez, Melissa 47, 60, 82, 83, 84, 86,

military: (n.) A choice that some seniors make after high school instead of attending college or as a way to show their strength and to prove they can do anything.

Melton, Christopher 36, 39, 80, 83, 84, 85, 91, 127, 143
 Mendoza, Alexander 84, 153
 Mendoza, Krystal 96, 97, 124, 164
 Meraz, Maricarmen 55, 121, 143
 Mercer, Lee 153
 Mercer, Matthew 23, 98, 99, 143
 Metsch, Alysia 83, 85, 153
 Metsch, Dillon 153
 Metz, Aaron 91, 171, 174
 Meyer, Kaitlyn 82, 83, 120, 121, 168, 174
 Mierzwa, Rachel 57, 82, 83, 84, 87, 116, 117, 137, 143
 Mihalick, Marris 73, 87, 128, 129, 153
 Miller, Danny 107, 143

Nagel, Brianna 153
 Nance, DeOndre 164
 Navarro, Eric 13, 164
 Nellenman, Mark 153, 156
 Nelson, Brianna 124, 149, 153
 Nelson, Preston 87, 91, 118, 119, 164
 Nieves, Sirena 174
 Niewiadomski, Alyssa 55, 67, 68, 81, 82, 83, 84, 86, 87, 153
 Nnawuchi, Austin 80
 Nolan, Allison 61, 81, 83, 87, 164
 Noojin, Ashley 85, 96, 153

"Never Say Never": (n.) A movie about how teen pop sensation Justin Bieber went from an ordinary boy to selling out Madison Square Garden. It is the mixture of a concert and an autobiography. It's perfect for the people who have Bieber fever.

Norricks, Lindsay 13, 164
 Norsweather, Kenneth 153
 Norton, Chloe 49, 83, 84, 128, 133, 159, 164
 Nowak, Jerry 153
 Nunez, Angel 47, 107, 127
 Nunez, Miguel 164
 Nunez, Nicky 39, 51, 139, 144

O'Brien, Agnes 86, 153
 O'Brien, Andrew 107, 153
 O'Brien, Chris 12, 164
 Obermeyer, Paige 21, 72, 169, 174
 Oliver, Chloe 65, 78, 83, 86, 153
 Olsen, Tristin 12, 91, 107, 131, 174
 Oros, Katie 16
 Ortosky, Katherine 174
 Orzechowicz, Brian 11, 39, 86, 118, 119, 144
 Orzelski, Tim 80, 174
 Osborn, Lindsey 164
 Owczarzak, Janelle 11, 13, 83, 86, 96, 164

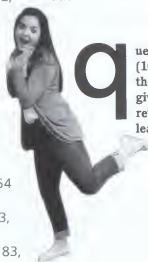


Plucinski, Christopher 36, 84, 112, 113, 144
 Plude, Ean 154

Osama bin Laden: (n.) The infamous terrorist that was the cause of 9/11, finally was captured and killed at the beginning of May 2011 which added security to the US. That night, Facebook was filled with status's about his death around the world.

Poole, Nicole 3, 15, 26, 27, 39, 80, 84, 85, 87, 144
 Pospychala, Brooke 15, 20, 83, 84, 86, 96, 165
 Pospychala, Kristen 37, 39, 83, 85, 86, 96, 136, 144, 216
 Powell, Gabrielle 82, 144

Quintanilla, Rosie 216



Ramirez, Marissa 175
 Ramirez, Steven 154
 Ranck, Katie 144
 Rapka, Nikki 16, 23, 154
 Rardin, Cassandra 83, 175

paranormal Activity 2: (n.) A movie that came out October 21, 2010 about a young couple, Katie and Micah, that are haunted by supernatural activity in their home and is caught on camera by home equipment. Students at GHS watch this movie to get a little scare and a jump every now and then.



Pelot, Andrew 19, 114, 115, 171, 175
 Pena, Austin 175
 Pena, Tyler 83, 90, 91, 164
 Perez, Jose 118, 119, 175
 Perez, Juan 175
 Perez, Rebecca 21, 83, 175
 Perkovich, Desiree 153
 Pierce, Lindsay 39, 48, 72, 84, 120, 144
 Pietsch, Lesley 85, 116, 153, 214
 Pinkham, Ashley 73, 82, 124, 164
 Pirtle, Chris 164
 Pirtle, Zach 11, 39, 114, 115, 138, 144
 Plawewski, Mark 80, 95, 122, 123, 175

Ray, Kaitlin 165
 Ray, Sherraid 154
 Reba, Emily 47, 49, 141, 144
 Reed, Kiara 165
 Reed, Zachary 144
 Reitz, Benjamin 154
 Reitz, Billie 46, 124, 125, 154, 155
 Reitz, Nathan 80, 91, 118, 119, 175
 Reitz, Taylor 11, 24, 35, 39, 85, 144
 Revis, Derek 91, 145
 Revis, Kelsey 137
 Rex, Jamie 29, 84, 128, 129, 133, 163, 165
 Rex, Jordan 29, 144



Rex, Mark 86, 119, 154
 Riddle, Ryan 137, 144
 Rios, Marisa 3, 82, 83, 108, 109, 173, 175
 Rivera, Gianni 5, 86, 149, 154
 Rivera, Joey 56, 75, 83, 91, 130, 131
 Rivera, Jose 165
 Rix, Keagan 165
 Roberson, Charles 15, 39, 87, 137
 Roberson, Deshon 91, 107, 175
 Roberts, Katelyn 82, 83, 84, 86, 112, 154
 Roberts, Rebecca 175
 Robertson, Alyssa 48, 154
 Robinson, Skye 175
 Rodriguez, Alex 80, 175
 Roe, Forrest 165
 Rogers, Billy 144
 Roldan, Lisette 26, 27, 82, 92, 175

quest: (n.) Bigger than a quiz (10+ points) but smaller than a test that teachers give to their students to help retain information that they learned.

Roosevelt, Gary 124, 127
 Root, Cassandra 92, 119, 124, 125, 175
 Root, Catena 53, 92, 151, 154, 214
 Ross, Imani 67,

82, 84, 137, 144
 Ross, Nia 4, 73, 80, 82, 83, 84, 86, 120, 165
 Rothchild, Andrew 1, 95, 132, 165
 Rothchild, Gregory 7, 86, 102, 103, 154
 Rush, Eric 175
 Russell, Amy 61, 64, 86, 96, 97, 154
 Ryan, Hope 86, 128, 154

Saberniak, Julia 73, 82, 87, 165
 Salazar, Erick 165
 Salazar, Jeanette 82, 83, 84, 86, 120, 159, 163, 165
 Salinas, Janessa 104, 124, 125, 154
 Sanchez, Breanna 82, 175
 Sanchez, Esperanza 165
 Sanders, Brittney 9, 11, 78, 82, 92, 144
 Sanders, Tiffany 154
 Sandoval, Alejandra 154

rumor: (n.) Drama starters that are apart of student's high school years but can cause you to loose people in your life, but they only make you into the person you are at the end of your high school experience.

Sandoval, Rosio 175
 Sanger, Margaret 148
 Santos, Sabrina 165
 Scally, Nicholas 30, 175
 Scheeringa, Brian 112, 159, 165
 Scheeringa, Camesha 82, 128, 175
 Scheeringa, Kyra 68, 83, 84, 110, 111
 Scheeringa, Shanaizha 85, 124, 125, 154

Scheffel, Jeanne 175
 Scheffel, William 154
 Schell, Anna 43, 59, 64, 68, 78,
 81, 82, 85, 86, 96, 97, 144
 Schell, David 18, 80, 95,
 107, 175
 Schidel, Shannon 116
 Schnoor, Becky 84
 Schnoor, Jake 48, 106,
 107, 127, 154
 Schramm, Brianna 82, 83,
 175
 Schreiber, Amanda 144,
 145
 Scofield, Chelsea 33,
 84, 85, 165, 216
 Scoggins, Alexandria
 165
 Seiluns, Dion 80, 91, 175
 Seiluns, Matt 14, 52, 80, 87, 159, 165, 214
 Shaffer, Sarah 154
 Shanks, Cassie 12, 36, 84, 144
 Sharp, Billy 165
 Sharp, Steven 18, 95, 159, 165
 Shaw, Jazmine 28, 46, 84, 154
 Shew, Holly 63, 112, 165
 Shinkle, Chelsea 51, 128, 166
 Short, Andy 45, 154
 Silva, Karina 120, 121, 166
 Silva, Luis 144
 Silva, Omar 154
 Simpson, Adrienne 154
 Sims, Micheal 37, 126, 127
 Singer, Alexis 46, 82, 83, 175
 Siokos, Shae 7, 11, 32, 80, 86, 124, 154
 Slagle, Collin 39, 118, 119, 144
 Smith, Aleia 175
 Smith, Brianna 144, 185
 Smith, Jesse 87, 106, 107, 131, 166
 Smith, Jessica 70, 154
 Smith, Luke 30, 91, 169, 175
 Smith, Melissa 166
 Smith, Ross 91, 176, 214
 Smith, Telia 166
 Smith, Vannessa 19, 39, 144
 Smith, Vickie 21, 82, 116, 174, 176
 Solar, Emily 82, 83, 116, 176
 Solar, Rachel 3, 85, 100, 101, 152, 154
 Solivais, Vicki 19, 24, 33, 47, 82, 83, 86,
 108, 155
 Sopetti, Lindsey 37, 42, 43, 80, 84, 85, 86,
 92, 120, 144, 214
 Sopetti, Michelle 3, 42, 71, 78, 80, 84, 85,
 86, 92, 93, 120, 121, 146
 Soy, Brandon 12, 91, 146, 147
 Soy, Jeremy 151, 155
 Soy, Stefanie 54, 83, 84, 86, 166, 216
 Spejewski, Allen 155
 Spires, Zachary 81, 123, 146
 Spriggs, Karley 65, 84, 85, 176



Stack, Emily 155
 Stack, Robert 176
 Stanko, Maria 50
 Starks, Jeremy 11, 14, 15, 39, 42, 43, 58,
 64, 69, 80, 86, 87, 115, 146
 Stassin, Nicholas 34, 53, 118, 119, 123, 155
 Steele, Joshua 34, 166
 Steffan, Taylor 11, 35, 86, 96, 97, 124, 155
 Steinhubel, Anna 98, 99, 124, 125, 161,
 166
 Steinhubel, James 102, 103, 122, 123,
 146, 147
 Stevens, Kevin 4, 80, 176
 Stevens, Robert 85, 155, 216
 Stickley, Zachary 4, 91, 107,
 176
 Stinnett, Brian 12, 67, 84,
 176
 Stokes, David 71, 80,
 98, 99, 115, 126, 127,
 156
 Street, Nicholas 166
 Strong, Tiffany 84
 Suarez, Ariana 2, 18, 46,
 124, 151, 156
 Suboh, Deena 166
 Sullivan, Brittany 156
 Summers, Ashley 166
 Surowiec, Taylor 1, 7, 83, 84,
 111, 146
 Sutherland, Sarah 156
 Syas, Kimmieisha 156
 Syas, Shadeja 124, 176
 Szabo, Robert 15, 26, 27, 35,
 53, 71, 85, 91, 156
 Szczepkowski, Maciek 47,
 86, 90, 91, 126, 127, 156
 Szot, Morgan 176

Takacs, Brittany 83, 176
 Takacs, Tim 16, 146
 Tamez, Janessa 50, 55, 84,
 156
 Tatge, Amanda 146
 Taylor, Ciara 156
 Taylor, Kelsey 85, 156
 Teasdale, Jennifer 156
 Tellez, Alejandra 20, 51,
 96, 152, 156



Tellez, Carlos 49, 95, 176
 Temple, Kylie 128
 Thiel, Amy 176
 Thiel, Tabatha 156
 Thomas, Ashley 166
 Thomas, Kentrell 16, 156
 Thomas, Tyler 54, 166
 Thomas, Vance 23, 39, 137
 Thomas, Zack 52, 137, 145
 Thrall, Melissa 29, 65, 69, 80, 84, 87,
 137, 146
 Tibbs, John 166
 Tinich, Jeff 3, 36, 84, 87, 98, 99, 112,
 113, 146
 Tinnin, Tyrell 21, 50, 90, 91, 106, 107,
 141
 Todd, Josh 91
 Tompkins, Terrence 91, 176
 Tompkins, Thomas 91, 176
 Tonkovich, Aaron 176
 Torres, Michelle 80, 120, 121,
 166

Tosh.O": (n.) A television show hosted by Daniel Tosh commenting on viral videos and featuring online hits such as the Double Rainbow Guy and Chris Rocker of "Leave Brittany Spears Alone" fame. He provides a comical insight to the internet videos that's made him a big hit among the teenage audience.

Torres, Sara 45, 50, 80, 82, 119, 120,
 121, 146
 Tripp, Cody 29, 65, 146, 178
 Trueblood, Brooke 11, 37, 39, 83, 85,
 108, 109, 146, 216
 Trueblood, Emilee 5, 22, 35, 80, 83, 86,
 108, 109, 128, 156
 Trueblood, Tessa 11, 13, 21, 82, 83, 85,
 108, 176
 Tucker, Cody 95, 172, 176
 Turnbull, Robert 39, 112
 Turner, Justin 86, 94, 95, 156
 Tuttle, Emily 82, 92, 176, 177
 Tuttle, Megan 7, 20, 34, 86, 92, 93, 149,
 156, 214

Ulm, Kylee 27, 34, 42, 43, 57, 70, 80,
 83, 84, 85, 86, 146
 Urena, Javier 166
 Urena, Michelle 84, 120, 121, 166

uh (interj.) The expression students make when their English teachers assign them their time consuming research paper that tends to cause all nighters.

Uylaki, Kyle 146

Vadavik, Joe 32, 53, 85, 86, 94, 95, 115, 156

Valliant, Carlton 18, 47, 91, 127, 156

Valtierra, Miguel 27, 86, 127, 156

Vanwhite, Crystal 56, 83, 110, 111, 156

Vanwhite, Sabrina 176

Vega, Alana 52, 83, 172, 176

Velasquez, Sarah 8, 27, 67, 84, 166

Verbich, Seth 112, 113, 146, 156

Vestal, Devin 82, 83, 176

Vestal, Tyler 146

Vieyra, Melissa 82, 83, 176

Villalpando, Katalina 25, 85, 86, 98, 99, 124, 156

Vogel, Anna 166

Vrabely, Hanna 10, 29, 64, 75, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 108, 109, 156

Vrabely, Sarah 3, 21, 29, 82, 83, 85, 108, 109, 175, 176

Vuckovich, Jacy 82, 83, 116, 120, 121, 176

Walker, Cameron 91, 176

Walker, Chance's 50, 62, 82, 83, 86, 155, 157

Walker, Da'Shauna 80, 82, 83, 85, 171, 176

Walker, Deziree 26, 83, 124, 161, 167

Walker, George 13, 17, 26, 27, 47, 85, 157

Waller, Christopher 167

Walter, Garrett 95, 157

Ward, Anthony 80, 167

Washack, Joseph 167

Weber, Patrick 44, 167

Weber, Stacy 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 120, 167, 216

White, Brandon 91, 175, 176

White, Karis 27, 82, 83, 161, 167

White, Kelsey 34, 124, 146

White, Morgan 157

White, Ted 91

Whitehorn, Dominique 107, 127, 176

Wilbert, Megan 11, 96, 97, 146

Williams, Brent 34, 45, 146

Williams, Robyn 157

Wilson, Christian 176

Wilson, Nicholas 80, 91, 176

Wilson, Quinton 176

Wilson, Tyler 146

Wimmer, Cole 15, 177

Windmon, Andre 157

Witvoet, Emily 65, 82, 83, 84, 86, 104, 111, 157

Witzke, Jaclyn 170, 177

Witzke, Nicole

Wolesyn, Rick 112

Wright, Julian 127, 167

Writt, Jake 14, 53, 80, 137

Writt, Julie 5, 86, 157

Wroblewski, Christine 63

Wyatt, LaDarius 167

Wyatt, Larell 167

Zaeistowski, Danielle 146

Zakrzewski, Richie 107, 141, 145, 147

Zamudio, Selena 62, 82, 83, 87, 165, 167

Zarndt, Andrew 87, 167

Zarndt, Jordan 86, 91, 157

Zawistowski, Sarah 167

Zellers, Amy 4, 16, 21, 23, 39, 72, 80, 84, 120, 147

Zubik, Jessica 157

Zubrick, Ryan 57, 70, 73, 77, 86, 87, 98, 99, 157

Zumba: (n.) A type of exercise that involves intense dancing and causes you to get an excellent workout while having a good time with friends. GHS students have caught onto this trend and some go regularly every week while others go every now and then.

Zuniga, James 80, 177

Zuniga, Joe 38, 49, 73, 80, 82, 87, 137, 147

Zurawski, Megan 170

Winning...DUH: (v.) Just one of the many phrases that came out of actor Charlie Sheen's crazed rants. Used to describe his lifetime during his acting career.

Yarnelle, Jesse 83, 96, 116, 117, 124, 167

Yarnelle, Troy 47, 85, 90, 91, 126, 127, 157

Yeager, Andrea 55, 146

York, Faith 92, 93, 124, 169, 177

yearbook: (n.) A fifth hour class that is taken by chosen students with special designing and writing abilities; Better then its biggest competitor, newspaper.

Yost, Erica 12, 82, 83, 92, 128, 129, 177

Yost, Tyler 2, 19, 35, 90, 91, 118, 119, 157

Young, Clarence 26, 27, 38, 75, 80, 84, 146

Young, Dale 112

Yunker, Stephanie 73, 78, 83, 84, 86, 87, 96, 167

de·fin·ing us

Megan McVicker, 12



Megan Tuttle, 11



Carina Root, 11



Sarah Hurdin, 12



Seniors



The end of the school year brings about changes in everything and everyone: hallways buzz with a new excitement as students grasp the idea that summer is coming soon, many classes speed up their curriculum in order to fit their long lesson plans into the few short hours left, while many other teachers stop expecting to get great work from a school of students who have lost much interest in the ending school year. "It's really hard to focus at the end of the year because I start concentrating more on summer and less on grades," said freshman Ross Smith. Finals, though, keep many dedicated students on track throughout the very last day.

This year, the final schedule was changed. On Tuesday, May 31, finals were taken in each students' first through third hour, and half of the fifth hour final was taken. On the last day of school, Wednesday, June 1, the second half of each student's fifth hour final was taken, along with fourth hour, sixth hour, and seventh hour. In between each final, there was a half hour long study period. "I thought that the extra pre-final time to study gave students the extra 'oomph' that they needed to succeed!" said junior Lesley Pietsch.

The termination of this school year brought about news of many changes for next year. Lisa Megquier, English, has resigned from the job of drama director. She has been the drama director for eight years and has directed many

plays and musicals. "I'm upset that Mrs. Megquier has resigned, but I hope that the drama director next year is just as good," said sophomore Matt Seiluns. Sheila Vacklavik, English, also announced her resignation from the position of National Honor Society sponsor.

National Honor Society managed to fit in the planning of one last service project at the end of the year. On June 10-11, a team created by NHS participated in the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life. Senior Courtney Koleski was the head of this project. The theme for the walk this year was "Cancer Around the World." Each team set up a campground near the track. The walk started at 4 pm and ended at 8 am the next morning. The track was lined with luminary bags that had the names of cancer fighters, survivors, and those who have lost their life to the disease. The bags kept the track lit all night. All throughout the night, there were many raffles and cook-outs, and breakfast was served in the morning.

Graduation this year was held in the Main Gym on June 5. Speeches were given by Megan McVicker (valedictorian), Lindsay Sopetti (salutatorian), and Art Garcia (class council president). "Graduation marked the time that I walked out of one door and prepared to walk into another," said senior Avery Chandler.

Overall, the 2010-2011 school year held a very different experience for each of the classes. Freshmen made it through their first year of high school, and became acquainted with the environment in which they would spend the next three years. Sophomores experienced a fairly easy year, academically. Most juniors were ecstatic to say that they survived a year of AP Biology or Biology II and many other extremely hard classes, along with Mrs. Vacklavik's literary analysis research paper and required science fair. Seniors experienced their last year at GHS, full of both happiness and nostalgia. Most seniors focused on preparing for college, while spending one last year with people who have been their closest friends for many years.



At the end of the graduation ceremony, Dr. Pete Morikis announced that the students at commencement were officially graduates. To mark this transition from high school students into alumni, the graduates ceremoniously moved their tassels from the right side of their graduation cap to the left. Senior Raymond Alvarez smiles while grasping his tassel, after being recognized with gratitude in valedictorian Megan McVicker's speech. "The words that Megan said to me were surprising and endearing. It was the greatest gift a friend can give to another. It meant the world to me and showed me that even though I'm going away next year I will always have those kind of friends to come back to. What she said showed what everyone has been through in these four years in one sentence: the hard times, the friendships and the long hours of studying. To have a friend there is essential; you need it. Thank you, Megan McVicker," said Alvarez.

de·fin·ing us

colophone

Reflector Volume 70 was printed by Herff Jones at 2525 Midpoint Drive, Edwardsville, Kansas. Early year-book orders cost \$65, but after September the price rose to \$80. Our theme this year was "defining us". Throughout the whole book we defined everything here at GHS and transformed our yearbook into a dictionary.

All theme pages, including end sheets, the title page, the opening, the closing, section dividers, and the colophone were designed by Jillian Dixon. The student life section (living) was designed by Samantha McInerney and Brooke Trueblood.

The academic section (learning) was designed by Sarah Guistolisi. Stephanie Brandner designed the clubs section (participating). The sports section (competing) was designed by Kristi Buxton. Dylan Etheridge designed the people section (being).

The business section (spending) was designed by Nicole Hamill. The cover of the yearbook was designed by Jillian Dixon, Dylan Etheridge, Nicole Hamill, and Sarah Guistolisi and generated by a Herff Jones art designer.

The story font is AHJ Calgary. The secondary

font used is AHJ Carto Gothic. Both font families were used throughout the book. All pages were submitted using ePage, and designed with Adobe Indesign CS4 and Adobe Photoshop programs. Photos were shot using digital cameras and uploaded to the Apple Macintosh computers. ImageIn was used to place the pictures on each spread. Larry Titak in Schererville, IN shot senior and faculty portraits, as well as club group shots. Titak also took all sports team photographs. Underclassmen photos were taken by HR Imaging Partners, Inc.

The goal of this book is to capture memories from students' high school experiences. One day, students will be able to look back and enjoy each and every memory.

The Reflector staff would like to thank Kristina Collard, our adviser, for guiding and supporting us with this yearbook. Without her, this book would not have been possible. The seniors will especially miss her and we wish her good luck with baby number three on the way.

letter from the editor



After four long years, my high school journey is finally coming to an end. It feels like it was just yesterday when I first walked through the Griffith High School entrance and was introduced to journalism. My sophomore year I joined the *Reflector* Staff and became a rookie reporter. After completing my first pages, I realized that journalism is anything but easy. The amount of time and effort put into making a yearbook requires an enormous amount of dedication. Two years later, my love for journalism has grown tremendously. Any free time I had in school, I worked on yearbook. I spent many days in room H124 (the journalism lab) to finish proofing and sending out pages to the plant. I want to thank the staff for helping to produce an amazing yearbook. Also, I want to thank Mrs. Collard for teaching me journalism and helping me along the way. My senior year and all of high school is something I will never forget. I hope many years from now, students read this book and remember all the good memories they had in high school.

Sincerely,
Jillian Dixon



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and Brooke Trueblood
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J. Laro

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Ally Gribbs
club advisor:
Kristina Collard
Jillian Dixon

(adj.) pregnant

Kristina Collard
advisor

(n.) ginger

Jillian Dixon
editor-in-chief

(adj.) cat-lover

Kristi Buxton
sports design editor

(n.) hood

Dylan Etheridge
people design editor

(adj.) helpful

Nicole Hamill
ads design editor

(adj.) infant-like

Samantha Melnerney
student life design editor

(adj.) organized

Brooke Truchlood
student life design editor

(adj.) creepy

Sarah Cristofisi
academics design editor

(adj.) obnoxious

Stephanie Brandner
clubs design editor

(n.) princess

Elison Cullen
reporter

(adj.) studious

Jordan Long
reporter

(adj.) reserved

Brittany Maglish
reporter

re•flec•tor staff

(adj.) outspoken

Abigail Grabos
reporter

(adj.) silly

Chelsea Scofield
reporter

(n): 1. A group of 25 students who work everyday during 5th hour to produce a yearbook that will hold 937 student's memories from the 2010-2011 school year. They design, report, photograph, and edit 216 pages that will last a lifetime.

2010 • 2011



(adj.) classy

Kristen Pospychala
photo editor



(adj.) destructive

Mandi Clark
photo editor



(adj.) *unique*



(adj.) energetic

Holli Haager
photographer



(adj.) bubbly



(adj.) *observant*

Alyssa Melchor
reporter

Stacy Weber
reporter



(adj.) talkative



(adj.) sweet



(adj.) spoiled

Rosie Quintanilla
reporter

Caylee Adams
reporter

Lisa Kurpela
reporter

P.D. (n.) Other people known as loyalty, pride, and dedication. Commonly chanted during football games. Serves as the lifeline for Griffith football players between the months of August and November. Displayed on nearly everything associated with the Panther football team.

Ms. Manuel: (Pr. n.) The woman with the power. Frequently referred to as Bon Bon, she has a generally good sense of humor. She is blamed for nearly everything by the student body, whether or not she deserves that blame. Students tend to immediately turn their backs on her if they are aware that their shirt is lower than her fingers below their collar bone, spontaneously drops a move or two at dances, and supports the theft of love during Homecoming week wholeheartedly.

Orange Cones: (n.) Objects that are used to warn cars of construction that outline Broad Street throughout Griffith. "Welcome to Griffith, Home of the Orange Cones."

Pa-looza: (n.) A school event organized by student council where students from all classes come together to watch the talented perform in various ways. Usually consists of dancing, comedy acts, singing, and a few surprise performances.

Prom: (n.) An eventful night where juniors and seniors dress to impress in poofy dresses and sleek tuxedos, dancing for 4 hours to their favorite tunes while enjoying the last hoorah of the school year.

Rail-road: (n.) A thicket in residents that are traveling out of town, cause of many missed appointments and late arrivals; trademark of the town of Griffith. Recorded in the Guinness Book of World Records for most train tracks crisscrossing in one area.

Ran-ther: (n.) A giant blow up 'Panther' that the football team runs out of before each home game. Long awaited, it sparked widespread disappointment when the fans realized that it looked more like a giant rat than Griffith's mascot. Although commonly referred to as a waste of money, it will go down in Griffith's history.

Sen-iors: (n.) A diverse group of 209 students with a severe case of senioritis. Many are crazed with the newly found freedom that comes with turning 18, while others are desperately trying to hold on to their childhood. With most future plans in tact, this group anxiously awaits June 5th all year long.

Soph-o-mores: (n.) The label the students receive as they enter their second year of high school. They are still underclassmen, but just feel relieved that they are no longer freshmen.

Town: (n.) Commonly referred to as "boring." Characterized by the general knowledge that you will never be able to leave your hometown without being seen by someone you know, yet also that you are never far from the comfort of a friend's house. Many small towns, it seems as though everyone knows everyone, resulting in the rapid spread of rumors and the tangled ties of enemies and friends.

Spirit: (n.) The act of GHHS students screaming at the top of their lungs to encourage their team while sporting black and gold attire. Class spirit is turned into a violent competition during Homecoming week, while school spirit is spread evenly between each grade, and lasts all year.

Tank: (n.) A large green vehicle in the middle of Central Park. Covered in years of graffiti, containing many carvings that have defied time, weather, and many years of life. Used mainly for children to climb, jump off of, and fall off of; the catalyst of many broken bones.

Pizza: (n.) Sold on Broad Street where many Griffith students choose to purchase pizza for as little as a \$1.50 per slice.

Turn-a-bout: (n.) One cold night in mid January; students dress up in their best formal wear and dance the night away; hundreds of pictures taken; hours upon hours spent getting ready.

Hoop: (n.) Thought to be the key to school spirit during football season. It is set